

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 041

28 February 1979

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

GENERAL

PRAVDA Reviews Detente in Europe, Sino-SRV Fighting [Yakhontov 25 Feb]	A 1
Gerasimov Hits 'Criminal Ease' of PRC Resort to Arms [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Feb]	A 4
Security Council's 27 Feb Debate on Southeast Asia	A 6
Baltic Chambers of Trade Conference Meets in Tallin [SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA 9 Feb]	A 7

UNITED STATES

U.S. Refuses To Reply to Question on PRC-Vietnam War	B 1
U.S. Attempts To Pressure Saudi Arabia Assailed [Timoshkin]	B 1
Foreign Media, Leaders Score U.S. Plans for Persian Gulf [Losev]	B 2
Evans, Novak Attack on USSR Broadcasts to Iran Decried [Kovalev in PRAVDA 24 Feb]	B 3
Washington's Mideast Maneuverings Imperil Peace [Anichkin in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 24 Feb]	B 4
Carrier Constellation Heading for South China Sea	B 6

CHINA

Igor Aleksandrov Cites Soviet Demand for End to PRC Aggression [PRAVDA]	C 1
Radio Peace and Progress Carries Appeal to Chinese People Broadcasts Truth on PRC Aggression	C 5 C 7
UK Warned on Potential Losses From PRC Arms Sale	C 7
Blumenthal Reports Good, Detailed Talks in Beijing	C 8
PRC Holds Talks With IDB To Finance Four Modernizations [Sidorov]	C 9

EAST EUROPE

IZVESTIYA Text of Report on Chnoupek USSR Visit [23 Feb]	D 1
GDR's Oskar Fischer Arrives in Moscow	D 2

WEST EUROPE & CANADA

Claim of Soviet Threat Kept Alive in Britain [Vyazov]	E 1
Patolichev Addresses Moscow Soviet-Italian Trade Meeting	E 2
Kirillin Discusses Cooperation with French Science Official	E 2

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Commentary Discusses Ulterior Purpose of Camp David	F 1
Demchenko Commentary [PRAVDA 24 Feb]	F 2
PRAVDA Cites Tudeh Party on FRC in SRV	F 3
[22 Feb]	
Morocco's King Hassan Comments on Shah's Status	F 3
[PRAVDA 24 Feb]	
Conflict Between YAR, PDRY Heightens	F 3
Syrian, Soviet Friendship Societies Sign Agreement	F 4
CPSU Delegation Studies Education, Culture in Syria	F 4
[PRAVDA 20 Feb]	

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Rhodesian Parliament Approves So-Called Constitution	H 1
[Novikov]	
Moscow Comments on Rhodesian Air Attack Against Angola	H 1
[Petrov]	
New Kenyan Economic Policy Not Answer to Problems	H 2
OAU Ministerial Council Meets in Nairobi	H 2
[Osipov, Skobelev]	

SOUTH ASIA

U.S. Deliberately Delays Resumption of Indian Ocean Talks	J 1
Kozin PRAVDA Article [19 Feb]	J 1
NOVOYE VREMYA Commentary	J 2

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Philippine Treaty Amendments Do Not Affect U.S. Bases	K 1
[Sidorov]	
Commentary on Thai Prime Minister's March Visit to USSR	K 1

INDOCHINA

Continuing Reportage, Commentary on FRC Invasion of SRV	L 1
PRC Expanding Aggression	L 1
Shishkovskiy on FRC Aggression	L 2
Talk on Background to Aggression [Shchedrov]	L 3
Fatherland Front Plenum Opens	L 5
Army Paper on Defeating Aggressors	L 5
Soviet Admiral Supports Statement	L 6
TASS Reports Normalization of Life in Cambodia	L 7
Lao Patriotic Front Congress Renames Organization	L 7

NORTHEAST ASIA

Motives Behind Diet Resolution on Northern Territories Hit
[Kharkov] M 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Latvian Official Describes Shortages of Meat, Dairy Products
[SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 10 Feb] T 1

Estonian Agriculture Minister on Insufficient Fodder, Milk
[Repetskiy in SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA 17 Feb] T 3

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmos-1079 Earth Satellite Launched 27 Feb U 1

Intercosmos-19 Launched 27 Feb To Study Ionosphere U 1

Soyuz-32 Crewmen Prepare Salyut-6 for Manned Flight U 1

Cosmonauts To Appraise State of Salyut-6 Units [Zheleznov] U 2

Ekran Television Satellite's Course Corrected U 3

Briefs: Academy of Sciences Expands; Soviet Polar Expedition U 3

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Ustinov Order: USSR Will Honor Obligations to Vietnam
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Feb] V 1

Briefs: Military Academy Chief V 2

PRAVDA REVIEWS DETENTE IN EUROPE, SINO-SRV FIGHTING

LD261553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[Yuliy Yakhotov "International Review"--first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Loyalty to the behests of Lenin, consistency, principledness and persistence are features which always have been and remain characteristic of the Communist Party's and Soviet state's peace-loving foreign policy. Yesterday was the third anniversary of the day when the 25th CPSU Congress commenced work in Moscow. It approved the program of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and the peoples' freedom and independence--a program which the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government are working strenuously and purposefully to implement.

Determining Trend

The results of this great and diverse activity are evident primarily in the relaxation of tension which has become the determining trend of world development despite substantial zigzags taken by the international situation--zigzags which are sometimes dangerous and which give rise to legitimate concern.

"Detente means primarily overcoming the cold war and making the transition to normal, equal relations among states. Detente means the readiness to resolve differences and disputes not by force, threats or saber rattling but by peaceful means at the negotiating table. Detente means a certain trust and the ability to take into account each other's legitimate interests," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted.

Proceeding from this definition of the nature of detente it can be said with confidence that it has borne and continues to bear good fruits. This applies primarily in Europe, where the situation compared with the past has improved. And it is quite natural that the overwhelming majority of leaders of European states should be unanimous in their view that detente is beneficial and useful to everybody, that it must be supported and developed in every way and that there is no reasonable alternative to it.

The fraternal socialist countries are persistently seeking to consolidate what has been achieved in detente, to deepen it and to extend it to all continents. The identity of aims and views toward this positive process was displayed again in particular during the recent visit by B. Chnoupek, Czechoslovak foreign minister and member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, to the Soviet Union.

Soviet-French cooperation began back in the mid-sixties under the flag of the struggle for detente. It greatly assisted in bringing about a substantial improvement in the European political climate. In February this year when French Foreign Minister Francois-Poncet paid an official visit to the USSR both sides reaffirmed that they regard the detente policy as the fundamental principle of their activity in Europe and throughout the world. The USSR and France expressed the firm intention to continue to do everything in their power to advance international detente.

During the visit particular attention was paid to preparation of the talks due to be held in the Soviet Union at the end of March between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and French President V. Giscard d'Estaing. The world public, that has repeatedly had occasion to see for itself the usefulness of Soviet-French summit meetings, does not doubt that the next meeting of the two states' leaders will be a substantial new contribution to the further development of cooperation between the USSR and France and will thereby have a beneficial effect on further improving the situation in Europe.

The USSR and Finland have again set a graphic example of what the policy of genuine peaceful coexistence--a policy invariably and consistently built on the principles of equality, mutual respect and trust--can and must be like. The unofficial visit to the Soviet Union by our neighboring country's prime minister, K. Sorsa, to participate in the commissioning of the second stage of the Svetogorsk pulp and paper combine, whose modernization and expansion were carried out with the participation of Finnish firms according to an agreement between the USSR and Finland, demonstrated the growing durability of Soviet-Finnish ties.

Our country regards the steady development of cooperative and good-neighborly relations with Finland, as with other states ready for this, as a main factor in implementing international detente.

And this is very important particularly now that this positive process is being slowed down substantially owing to the opposition of Western militarist circles. Taking refuge in the false thesis of the "Soviet military threat," these circles are pushing the NATO countries onto the path of further building up arms arsenals and stepping up military expenditure. This was again demonstrated by a conference of military experts, politicians and diplomats from leading NATO countries held recently in Munich. Zinnerman, chairman of the Bavarian Christian Social Union's land group in the Bundestag, spoke out in favor of equipping NATO with a new tactical nuclear system and he made an appeal "not to forget the neutron bomb." Incidentally, this demand was merely a rehash of statements made by Bavarian Prime Minister F.J. Strauss who, in an interview with the West German newspaper DAS BILD, stated: "The West should adopt three kinds of nuclear weapons: the neutron bomb, the cruise missile and the Pershing missile." Such calls for armament are being voiced, however, paradoxically, during the current debate in the FRG on...disarmament. They are actively supported by newspapers with reactionary leanings. For instance, what is the worth of a statement made by Springer's DIE WELT: "If the Germans in NATO do not call for the qualitatively best medium-range missiles then it is completely obvious that nobody will. That would signify...a setback for the FRG."

It is difficult to say what "setback for the FRG" DIE WELT is referring to, but it is completely obvious that the speedup in the arms race it is pushing for could turn into real setbacks for peace and detente in Europe.

Removing the Mask

The current Chinese leaders have long been among those forces which totally oppose detente. They are completely openly fueling the arms race and colluding with the most reactionary forces and regimes.

And now, after a long chain of provocations against Socialist Vietnam, Chinese troops have invaded the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]. Heavy fighting has now been continuing for a week along the entire length of the border. The Vietnamese people are heroically defending their land and inflicting serious strikes on the Beijing aggressors.

The aggressive essence of Beijing's policy has now manifested itself in full. And this is probably clear to those who try to call the Beijing troops' invasion of a neighboring state's territory a "border crossing" or who portray the aggression as some kind of act of "revenge" in connection with the "events in Kampuchea." But nothing can cover up the Chinese actions. Aggression is aggression, and here the only appropriate thing is its most decisive condemnation. Beijing had been preparing to attack Vietnam long before the overthrow of the bloody Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique. During the period 1974 through 1977 almost 2,200 cases of Chinese provocations on the borders with the SRV were recorded. In 2 years (1975-1977) Chinese ships violated Vietnam's territorial waters 1,500 times, and in 1978 alone there were approximately 800 instances of armed violations of Vietnam's territorial integrity by the Chinese side. [paragraph continues]

"Zbigniew Brzezinski, White House adviser for national security affairs, arrived in Beijing in May 1978," the American newspaper DAILY WORLD recalls. "A week earlier China had halved equipment deliveries and aid to Vietnam. Soon after his departure the Chinese ended these deliveries. In June China closed three Vietnamese consulates in the country, and 3 July it completely suspended economic and technical aid and recalled its specialists from Vietnam. The process of the rapid deterioration in Vietnamese-Chinese relations was taking place in parallel with China's talks with the United States on restoring diplomatic relations...."

As Von Baudissen, director of the Hamburg Institute for the Study of International Problems, recently declared in an interview in the West German newspaper WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU, "the Chinese invasion of Vietnam has confirmed the Soviet assessment according to which China is a new and particularly menacing factor in world politics." Yes, the USSR has repeatedly warned of the dangerous consequences which could result from the zeal of those who wish to play the "China card." But in some places this has probably been included in the risky political calculation.

The U.S. newspaper NEWSDAY has reported: "Of course, the U.S. administration was not caught unawares by what the Chinese have done. Not only was the administration able to follow closely the buildup of PRC Armed Forces on the border by means of its intelligence satellites, but leading commentators have also declared that such an attack is in full accordance with China's present foreign policy course." And U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Holbrooke recently confirmed: "Our intelligence worked well, and we knew that these events were on their way. In particular, Deng Xiaoping himself warned us that China might undertake actions against Vietnam."

To complete the picture we will add that specialists in international relations in Japan's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party have expressed the opinion, as the newspaper MAINICHI reports, that "in the background to China's armed invasion of Vietnam there were 'hidden aspects' of the conclusion of the Japanese-Chinese treaty and the American-Chinese normalization of relations, which, starting last year exerted a serious influence on the development of the situation in Asia."

The international public also draws attention to the fact that people in Washington and a number of other capitals of NATO countries are not disposed to calling the Chinese aggressors by their proper name. The result is a false-bottomed morality. Despite the fact that the Chinese interventionists are trampling the land of a neighboring state, killing women and children and destroying cities and villages, the Common Market, for example, has ventured merely to voice "concern" at "the situation developing in Southeast Asia."

Despite the fact that China is waging an aggressive war and flouting the norms of international law, not to mention human rights, high-ranking emissaries are continuing imperturbably to visit Beijing. U.S. Treasury Secretary Blumenthal set out for Beijing to discuss questions of trade with the PRC. This year, it turns out, it is planned to almost double American exports to China. We should also mention London's position, which also sent Industry Secretary E. Varley to Beijing this week. As THE FINANCIAL TIMES wrote, he is "hoping for an agreement with the PRC on sales of Harrier VTOL fighters."

All this can only serve to encourage the aggressor waging war on foreign soil. However, the recent past teaches us what tragedy can result from connivance at the hegemonist claims of a totalitarian state. This is well known both in Europe and in the United States. Surely the lessons of history have not been forgotten?

The facts indicate that Beijing is not thinking of ending its aggressive war. More and more new Chinese contingents, arms and combat materiel are being transferred to the scene of bitter fighting. The Chinese leadership is getting increasingly deeply mixed in an adventure fraught with serious consequences.

Combat Solidarity

The news of the crime committed by Beijing--and there is no other word for this act of brigandage--aroused a storm of indignation in the world.

The Soviet Government resolutely demanded an end to the aggression and the immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from SRV territory.

Soviet public organizations and collectives of enterprises, establishments, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and educational institutions have voiced the demands "hands off Vietnam" and issued angry protest statements. PRAVDA's editorial offices are receiving a continuous stream of letters and cables in which readers voice their indignation at China's aggression and demand its immediate end and the withdrawal of Beijing troops from Vietnam.

"Great-Han chauvinism and hegemonism, the Chinese leaders' impotent furious malice in connection with the victories of socialist building in Vietnam, the failure of their own antipopular policy in China--only this can account for the aggressive war unleashed by the Chinese reactionaries against the Vietnamese people on 17 February," V. Dmitriyev writes to PRAVDA from Chernigov.

"In taking this foul and shameful step the Chinese leadership is trying primarily to convince like-minded people in the United States and West Europe of its hostile attitude toward the socialist community countries and of its total break with peace-loving forces throughout the world and is reckoning on obtaining as a result new loans to modernize the army in order to achieve its hegemonist aims," A. Samoylenko of Kiev indignantly writes.

"Vietnam is not alone! The mighty Soviet Union, the entire socialist community and all the world's honest people are with it. Let the Chinese aggressors know that we will not abandon the people of the SRV in their misfortune," technician V. Nepomnyashchiy writes from Chelyabinsk.

These days the voice of the international workers movement, the communist parties of different countries and the national liberation movements is resounding mightily. With great unanimity and internationalist solidarity they are decisively condemning Beijing's aggression against Socialist Vietnam and demanding the withdrawal of Chinese troops from foreign territory.

Governments, political parties and public organizations in various countries have also issued decisive protests against Beijing's actions.

Truly all progressive mankind voices its anger and indignation at the Chinese aggression and its solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people.

The world's peoples demand an end to the aggression and the immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from SRV territory.

GERASIMOV HITS 'CRIMINAL EASE' OF PRC RESORT TO ARMS

LD281055 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Vladimir Gerasimov international review: "The Forces of Peace are Invincible"]

[Text] One of the corners of our world is now engulfed by the flames of war. It sears people's hearts with indignation and anger and forces them to think with great responsibility of the destiny of peace. [paragraph continues]

All these years the Soviet Union has tirelessly and consistently defended the peoples' supreme right to creativity, happiness and a clear sky not overcast with the storm clouds of war. And today Soviet people censure the Chinese aggressors, express their solidarity with Vietnam and demand an end to the criminal, bandit attack.

Relying on the might, cohesion and dynamism of the socialist community and its strengthening alliance with all progressive and peace-loving forces, our country has tried all these years to reinforce the fundamental change in international relations away from the cold war toward the relaxation of tension, away from alienation toward trust between countries. "The party and the Soviet state," the CPSU Central Committee appeals to all voters and citizens of the USSR states, "are persistently and successfully implementing the peace program adopted by the 24th CPSU Congress and the program of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and the peoples' freedom and independence approved by the 25th party congress. World peace has become more reliable, while our country's international position is now firmer than ever."

Nonetheless, storm clouds are gathering on the horizon--the relaxation of tension, while remaining the main trend, has been noticeably slowed down. Its opponents are not laying down their arms. The present Chinese leaders' rash policy is also benefiting militarist circles' actions.

The Chinese troops' invasion of Vietnam showed all mankind the true essence of Maoism and attested yet again how irresponsibly Beijing treats the destiny of peace and with what criminal ease the Chinese leadership brings weapons into play.

In this complex situation, marked by an activation of the forces of militarism, reaction and great-Han chauvinism, the Soviet Union is continuing its consistent course toward stepping up the relaxation of international tension and is continuing to struggle for the solution of the fundamental questions of disarmament, on which the future of all peoples and the further development of world history depend.

The efforts aimed at achieving a decisive breakthrough in the struggle to halt the arms race must now be redoubled, trebled, increased tenfold! That is the Soviet people's opinion.

Last spring the Soviet people advanced a detailed complex of proposals for a complete halt to further quantitative and qualitative growth in the armaments and armed forces of states with large military potentials. Soon this initiative, together with the USSR's other proposals, became the subject of active discussion at the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament. Many ideas advanced by the Soviet Union became an organic part of the concluding document of this important forum, expressing the peoples' desire for disarmament. Next fall, in September, the UN General Assembly will again devote considerable attention to the problem of disarmament. It is planned to include on the agenda questions of convening a world disarmament conference and the proclamation of the eighties as the decade of disarmament.

In terms of solving the problem of curbing the arms race much depends on the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. SALT-II talks. This year sees the 10th anniversary of the date when USSR and U.S. representatives sat down to negotiations designed to limit deployment of the most dangerous, destructive armaments. But while the SALT-II treaty was concluded comparatively rapidly, SALT-II talks have dragged on too long. Our party and state are steering a firm line toward concluding an agreement based on the sides' equal right to security. But the U.S. opponents of SALT-II have not laid down their arms. They have now become even more active since China's perfidious attack on Vietnam.

The opponents of detente are also trying to deadlock the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. Western participants in the Vienna dialog are still refusing to meet the socialist states' constructive proposals halfway. That is precisely how we should assess the recent statement by E. Jung, leader of the FRG delegation at the Vienna talks, which showed that the West is continuing to cling to its clearly negative position. The Western partners are continuing to insist on one-sided concessions from the Warsaw Pact countries. But they themselves stick to the concept of unequal reductions, thus leaving themselves an open door for implementing NATO's long-term program in the sphere of the arms race and the emplacement of dangerous new weapons systems in central Europe.

At all the talks underway on military detente the Soviet Union and the fraternal countries are seeking to achieve binding, effective accords and are striving to break the lethal spiral of the constant boosting of arms production. There is no type of armaments which they would not be prepared to limit or reduce on the basis of strict observance of the principle of nondetriment to any country's security. The fraternal countries are guided by the demand of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee's Moscow declaration: to advance more rapidly in the main problems of disarmament--particularly nuclear disarmament. This is precisely the line they pursue in the Geneva Disarmament Committee. The international public actively supports the working document on talks about halting the production of nuclear weapons in all their forms and the gradual reduction of stockpiles right up to liquidation, submitted for the committee's examination by the delegations of the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

In his letter to this committee Comrade L.I. Brezhnev wrote:

"For the states and peoples, for statesmen responsible for their countries' life and welfare, the time has come to be definitively aware of the real significance of the alternative now facing mankind: Either the arms race will be halted and reversed and peaceful principles finally irreversibly established in interstate relations, or matters will reach a very dangerous new brinkmanship, with all the accompanying adverse consequences for detente, normalization of interstate relations and solution of world economic problems."

The Soviet foreign policy course toward peace, detente and disarmament is a firm course. For all the complexity and diversity of the situation Soviet people look to the future with optimism. They know that the peoples' will for peace is invincible, that the forces determined to preserve and consolidate peace prevail over those who would like to turn world events in the opposite direction.

SECURITY COUNCIL'S 27 FEB DEBATE ON SOUTHEAST ASIA

LD281006 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] New York, February 28, TASS--China's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has again been resolutely denounced at the Security Council which on Tuesday continued the discussion of the situation in Southeast Asia.

Permanent representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the United Nations Ha Van Lau has called upon the Security Council to sternly denounce the Chinese interventionists, to have the Chinese troops withdraw from Vietnam's territory and to make China respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam.

The Security Council, said the USSR's permanent representative at the United Nations Oleg Troyanovskiy, should take a clear and unambiguous stand of condemnation of the Chinese aggression. It is only through the undelayed withdrawal of the aggressor's troops that peace can be restored in South East Asia and a threat of further aggravation of the international situation can be thwarted. All sorts of proposals with general calls, without condemnation of the aggressor and the demand of withdrawal of the aggressor's troops can only lead to consolidation of the aggressor on the captured territory, as it repeatedly happened in the past, the Soviet delegate stressed.

The Security Council will continue the discussion of the question of the Chinese aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

BALTIC CHAMBERS OF TRADE CONFERENCE MEETS IN TALLIN

LD271529 Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 9 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[ETA report: "Cooperation Among the Countries of the Baltic Coast"]

[Text] A session of the Executive Committee of the Conference of Baltic Countries' Chambers of Trade opened 8 February in Tallin. Representatives of the GDR, Poland, the Soviet Union, the FRG and Finland are participating in it.

The session participants were greeted by I. Gaydenko, general secretary of the USSR Chamber of Trade and Industry.

"The Conference of the Baltic Countries' Chambers of Trade meets every 2 years," I. Gaydenko told an ETA correspondent. "It elaborates joint recommendations on questions of cooperation among the countries of the region. This applies primarily to trade and economic and scientific and technical cooperation, and also to the utilization of maritime transport, environmental protection and other issues.

"The main line of this work is the promotion by all the region's countries of implementation of the decisions of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation. An exchange of information on the course of promoting fulfillment of the acts of the all-European conference will take place at the present session."

U.S. REFUSES TO REPLY TO QUESTION ON PRC -VIETNAM WAR

LD271514 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Washington--A U.S. State Department spokesman has refused to reply to questions on whether the Chinese have informed the United States about the nature of further operations against Vietnam. He avoided making any comments at all on the possibility of the military operations in Indochina continuing.

U.S. ATTEMPTS TO PRESSURE SAUDI ARABIA ASSAILED

LD280718 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, some days ago said that Saudi Arabia can be of decisive importance in guaranteeing peace in the Middle East. The U.S. senator said: I see that the time has come to talk frankly to Saudi Arabia about its role in the negotiations on concluding a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

This is not the first time Senator Church has made such a statement. In these statements he is speaking as a fully authorized representative of official Washington, which to this day has not given up its attempts to drag Saudi Arabia into the separate policy followed by the Egyptian leadership despite the disapproval of a vast majority in the Arab world.

In his conversation with journalists on Sunday after meeting the Egyptian prime minister and the Israeli foreign minister, who are leading their countries' delegations to the Camp David talks, President Carter also hinted at this.

It is observed that U.S. officials have tried their utmost not to say one word about the reasons which have made Saudi Arabia resolutely reject to this day the separate Camp David deals. We would recall there that Saudi Arabia has been insisting on the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the Arab territory occupied in 1967, including definitely Arab Jerusalem, and on restoring the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people. The Saudi officials have repeatedly stressed in highest-level statements that their country--and the rest of the Islamic world agrees in this--will never agree to the annexation of Arab Jerusalem, which houses Muslim shrines.

A report in the magazine AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI said that the Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni proposed an Islamic conference in Tehran as soon as possible to examine the question of liberating Jerusalem from Israeli occupation.

The Washington representatives who have been pressuring Saudi Arabia once again have been trying to frighten it about the possibility of events similar to those in Iran happening in Saudi Arabia. Senator Frank Church said that if the Saudis are hoping we will be their guarantors in light of those events in Iran, we are fully entitled to ask them to help us in guaranteeing peace in the Middle East.

No doubt the senator means by peace that which agrees with the interests of the United States and the Israeli aggressors.

FOREIGN MEDIA, LEADERS SCORE U.S. PLANS FOR PERSIAN GULF

LD280214 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] American Defense Secretary Harold Brown has appeared on television after his return from a 10-day tour of the Middle East. He discussed the situation in that region following the collapse of the shah regime in Iran. This subject was also dealt with on the same day by Energy Secretary James Schlesinger. Here is a comment from our observer Sergey Losev:

Until the recent dramatic developments in Iran the shah's army, which was fully equipped and armed by the United States and which was instructed by thousands of U.S. military advisers, practically played the role of a United States policeman in the Persian Gulf. Following the events in Iran this role is hotly contested now by Israel and the As-Sadat regime. They expect that this will bring them billions of dollars worth of U.S. military supplies. But neither Israel nor Egypt have any military bases in the Persian Gulf region. This is despite the fact that over the past few days Egypt has moved several of its units to Oman to replace Iranian troops which took part in suppressing the national liberation movement in (?Oman).

Therefore none of the two contenders for the role of international policeman in the Persian Gulf seems fit for the job in the opinion of the Pentagon. In his television interview the other day Defense Secretary Brown said the United States will take any justified action, including using its military might, to safeguard its interests in the Persian Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula. Asked by the moderator about his ideas concerning broader United States military presence in that part of the world, Brown said consultations are already underway with the countries of the region on that score, but he refused to elaborate.

Energy Secretary James Schlesinger was more outspoken in his television interview on the same day. He said U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf must include the physical presence of U.S. troops. He said the actual deployment of these troops is still an open question. The energy secretary, just as Harold Brown, tried to justify these interventionist Pentagon plans on the grounds that there is a need to secure an uninterrupted flow of oil from the Middle East and the vital U.S. interest in that region.

One should recall at this point that there is not immediate or even remote threat to Western, including American, oil interests in the Middle East. The new government of Bazargan in Iran has just announced that Iran will resume its oil export in about 2 weeks time. There can, of course, be a change in the forms and methods of oil trade. Iran says, for example, that it will export its oil in the future directly through the national Iranian oil company and not through the international consortium of Western oil companies. But decisions of this kind are a sovereign right of every independent country and cannot be considered a pretext for foreign military intervention.

Attempts to assume the role of international policeman in the Persian Gulf region can do Washington no good, they will end in failure just as the U.S. military adventure in Vietnam did. It's interesting to note that the press in the NATO countries has been rather skeptical and about the idea of U.S. intervention put forward by Brown and Schlesinger. The French newspaper LE MATIN has denounced the Brown interview as bluff which is meant to assure Saudi Arabia that Washington will not tolerate any repetition of the events in Iran in any other country of the region. An editorial in THE FINANCIAL TIMES of London warned the Americans that it may be difficult and even impossible to protect the oilfields, refineries and pipelines by military force.

The paper feels that an uninterrupted flow of Middle East oil can only be insured by establishing proper political relations with the countries of the region and not through threats of military intervention or growing military presence. THE FINANCIAL TIMES points out that Brown's plans of increasing United States arms supplies and sending more military advisers to the Middle East may follow the pattern of the U.S. policy in Iran. The results of that policy are self-evident.

The public in the Arab countries still remember threats by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger back in 1974 when he called for a military occupation of Arab oilfields in the Middle East. This U.S. blackmail was rejected by the Arab countries. Today we are witnessing a very similar situation being repeated again. The New York TIMES says even Saudi Arabia, which has a special relationship with Washington, has rejected the idea of having more U.S. bases on its soil. Oil Minister Yamani said Saudi Arabia doesn't require such military aid. The foreign minister of Kuwait has denounced the proposed U.S. interference as inadmissible and irresponsible. He said times have long passes when certain powers resorted to such methods. He said in our times peoples are capable of protecting their own interests.

EVANS, NOVAK ATTACK ON USSR BROADCASTS TO IRAN DECRIED

LD271501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[E. Kovalev "Rejoinder": "Incitement"]

[Text] That pair again, the reader will say. Yes, it's them again. Quite recently, in fact, the Evans and Novak duet, performing for the Washington POST, incited the U.S. administration to adopt "the most extreme measure." after spotting the silhouettes of certain new military aircraft in the sky over Cuba. Then they had the honor of attracting the attention of Deng Xiaoping, who decided that there was no one better than Evans and Novak to persuade the ordinary Westerner of the seriousness of Beijing's anti-Soviet intentions. So we have their latest opus.

What did Evans and Novak decide to attack this time? It transpires that they take objection to Soviet radio broadcasts, above all those to Iran. They do not like the way these broadcasts reveal instances of U.S. interference in this country's affairs and talk about the unsavory role of American advisers and instructors in attempting to suppress democratic forces and the Iranian revolution, and about the ties between the CIA and the shah's secret police, SAVAK. Evans and Novak do not venture to question the fact that SAVAK was set up with the CIA's help and operated under its aegis. But such exposures, Evans and Novak maintain, provoke people, turn them against the United States and, consequently, are anti-American and are "fabrications."

That we are talking about facts created by U.S. actions does not concern the reporters.

But the essence lies not in the emotions of the journalistic duet from the Washington POST in connection with events in Iran and "slander against the United States and the wounded and vulnerable CIA." In this, as in all other cases, the truth does not concern them. They are engaged in creating "political equations" convenient for all anti-Soviets: If the Soviet Union criticizes American imperialist policy, then the dignity of the United States as a state and nation is being "insulted". If the CIA and American representatives abroad are criticized--this means that the target is the American administration, and since the administration's honor has been offended the head of the administration is bound to feel personally insulted.

The aim is simple and obvious: to strike the chord that will "bring to an abrupt end the current policy of submissiveness" (Evans' and Novak's words). The Soviet Union's proposed course toward good-neighborliness and the principles of noninterference in internal affairs, equality and equal security are a trap, they warn the President. The United States' real "greatness" should be sought, the firebrands urge, not through detente and cooperation with the socialist countries but in confrontation with them.

One hears in American journalistic circles that Evans and Novak have long been keeping a file of the most scathing anti-Soviet terms and descriptions. One feels that this file will be somewhat bigger following their recent trip to Beijing. So, in the near future, we can expect new outpourings from Evans and Novak ... in the old style.

WASHINGTON'S MIDEAST MANEUVERINGS IMPERIL PEACE

LD271755 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[International review by observer Oleg Anichkin: "Dangerous Maneuvers"]

[Text] After making great sacrifices, the Iranian people have triumphed in their long struggle against the shah's regime, which had kept the overwhelming majority of Iranians impoverished and without rights. However, the struggle is continuing--armed clashes are flaring up in various places between forces loyal to the revolution and remnants of the old regime's armed supporters. Bloody sallies are being made by provocateurs and inciters enjoying the support of imperialists.

The fall of the shah's regime in Iran, which was until recently, in the words of Americans themselves, the United States' "strong and loyal ally" in the Persian Gulf, has now created many problems for the American policymakers.

Regardless of how events in Iran subsequently develop and what the new government's foreign policy will be, particularly with regard to the United States, one thing is clear now: Washington has lost many of its positions in the Persian Gulf.

H. Kissinger said only recently: "For 30 years the shah of Iran has been the devoted friend of the United States." It should not be forgotten that during the Egyptian Israeli conflict Iran was the only country to ban aircraft carrying arms for the Arabs from overflying its territory; Iran was the only OPEC country not to impose an oil embargo, and so forth. To this the Washington POST adds: "The United States has derived great benefit from the shah's cooperation with America in the economic and strategic spheres. He was a useful and dependable ally who could be relied upon to safeguard American interests."

Such a testimonial is clearly quite adequate to define the significance of the old regime for safeguarding U.S. military, political and strategic interests in this region.

In addition, it has not been ruled out that the United States might also be deprived of an important source of oil, even though Iranian oil may not have held a large place in America's energy balance. But Washington is concerned because its client in the Near East--Israel--chiefly used Iranian oil. Now this will not be so. Khomeyni has repeatedly pointed out that "Israel is Iran's direct enemy, and the least we can do is stop it from using our colossal potential in its own interests." From this it is possible to draw the conclusion that supplying Israel with oil now also becomes an American problem, and a quite difficult one, too.

On the other hand, the Iranian events might have had an unfavorable--for American interests--impact on Saudi Arabia. What concerns them there is not only the danger of revolutionary processes spreading beyond Iran, but also the fact that some people in Saudi Arabia see Washington less and less as a reliable ally. There had already been some evidence of a departure from Riyadh's unconditional orientation toward Washington--Saudi Arabia's refusal to support the separate deal at Camp David, and its decision to raise oil prices at the recent OPEC conference despite U.S. pressure.

As the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN pointed out, it is now obvious to everyone that the U.S. actions have "shaken the confidence of its friends in the region." The facts show, the newspaper declares, that Washington puts its own interests above all else and "precisely this resulted in the Americans abandoning first the shah and then Bakhtiar. It is natural that this situation does not help create confidence in the reliability of American support."

In this situation the United States is resorting to active maneuvering in the Persian Gulf and the Near East. On the one hand Washington is seeking to calm its allies in this region who are voicing fears one way or another in connection with the Iranian events. On the other hand, it is trying to create a new mainstay to safeguard its interests in place of what has been lost in Iran. It is quite clear that for the United States the stakes in this region are too great.

According to recent reports, the United States is taking into consideration the fact that not one of the Persian Gulf countries, including Saudi Arabia, possesses sufficient potential to safeguard American interests. As a result, it is inclining toward creating a kind of military-political alliance consisting of Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia and perhaps certain other countries.

At first glance it might seem impossible to actually create such a bloc because of the strong contradictions that still exist between these countries. In the opinion of Americans, however, the formation is not so problematic. The Americans are evidently now counting on certain circles in certain Near East countries being sufficiently frightened by the rapid development of events in Iran and their consequences.

"Washington," BUSINESS WEEK writes, "proposes to create an unprecedented military coalition in the Near East--an alliance of Arabs with Israel. It is to be founded on Saudi Arabia's money and Egypt's human resources."

The United States is already taking concrete steps in this direction. These aims are also served by U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown's trip to the region. The American press regards this mission as "the most important diplomatic mission undertaken by the United States of late." The United States is also trying to drag North Yemen and Sudan into the orbit of Washington's projected military bloc founded on Saudi "petrodollars," Egyptian cannon fodder and American arms. The possibility is not excluded that other U.S.-oriented countries will also join this bloc.

Reporting the Pentagon chief's trip, the American press writes that agreement was reached on U.S. deliveries of large arms consignments to allies of Saudi Arabia, which will pay up to the tune of \$300 million. According to the WALL STREET JOURNAL, under this deal North Yemen will receive modern fighters, transport aircraft and tanks. It is planned to deliver considerable consignments of the latest arms to Sudan. As can be seen from press reports, the administration has begun actively pushing these deals through Congress.

At the same time American propaganda is fueling the myth of the "Soviet threat" to help realize the aims of Brown's trip to the Near East. Certain Arab press organs have also actively taken up this theme. Egypt's AL-AKHBAR is particularly zealous in this respect. But all this is an old song, and the majority of Arab countries do not believe it.

Another fact is also noteworthy: America's efforts to reanimate the Egyptian-Israeli talks involving the American side. Washington intends to expedite the conclusion of this deal and to push through more quickly the realization of its plan to create the alliance, taking into account the increase in Israel's strategic role following the events in Iran. This position of Israel's could in turn lead Tel Aviv toward still greater intransigence--which would hamper a Near East settlement as a result.

The U.S. maneuvering, including the U.S. defense secretary's trip, show once again that Washington is least of all interested in establishing just peace and stability in the Near East. It is quite clear that the United States is playing a game fraught with serious consequences for the security of the countries of this region. The throwing together of a new military and political bloc could result in the creation of one more seat of tension.

These U.S. actions cannot fail to arouse world public concern, since the American maneuvering in the Near East imperils peace.

CARRIER CONSTELLATION HEADING FOR SOUTH CHINA SEA

LD271740 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The American aircraft carrier Constellation, which sailed from Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines, is reported by REUTER to be on its way to the South China Sea. A spokesman for the U.S. Command declined to answer newsmen's questions about the ship's destination. There are a nuclear-powered submarine and several surface ships of the American 7th Fleet in the region. During the events in Iran the aircraft carrier and escort vessels were in that area in a bid to influence in that country.

IGOR ALEKSANDROV CITES SOVIET DEMAND FOR END TO PRC AGGRESSION

ID272238 Moscow TASS in English 2215 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--PRAVDA carries today an article by Igor Aleksandrov titled "Beijing's Aggression Must Be Resolutely Rebuffed". The article reads:

Beijing's armed aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam continues to develop. Having met with a heroic and effective rebuff from the Vietnamese Armed Forces, which inflicted on the aggressors heavy losses in manpower and equipment and which thwarted the plan of Chinese strategists for carrying out within a few days a "blitzkrieg Beijing-style," the Chinese leaders, however, do not abandon their adventurist plans. They are trying again and again to step up offensive operations in several directions and to keep the Vietnamese territories they captured. Fierce fighting is going on in a number of sections. Beijing has started transferring fresh military formations from the central districts of China to the frontier with the SRV instead of those which were bled white in battle.

At the same time, the Maoist leaders and propaganda are trying to manoeuvre. They cannot ignore the wave of anger and protests surging throughout the world against China's aggression, a wave growing into a powerful international movement under the slogan "hands off Vietnam". They cannot fail to see that even none of the governments of the Western powers, which actually solidarize with Beijing's hostile policy vis-a-vis the states of the socialist community, has found possible to approve publicly of China's attack on the SRV.

Therefore, every effort is being made to mislead world public opinion concerning the nature, scale and aims of the Chinese action. A cynical campaign of misinformation and slander is being conducted and attempts made to present black as white, namely to picture the attack on Vietnam, which was planned beforehand, as a "forced" retaliatory action, and the open military thrust into the territory of a neighbouring state as a limited one-time operation which is about to be discontinued "voluntarily" by China. Nor are they ashamed to spread wild lies about "the Vietnamese threat" to China.

Incidentally, it is significant that Beijing's internal propaganda which provides almost no coverage to the hostilities in Vietnam attempts to create the impression that China allegedly pursues the aim of rebuffing the "Vietnamese aggressors", "to regain" a territory allegedly conquered from China at some unknown time in the past, and that the Chinese troops crossed into the Vietnamese territory only in the "pursuit of the enemy." And this is no coincidence. Once again, the Maoist top rulers are attempting to mislead China's population by falsehoods and slander about the neighbouring states, fanning up chauvinistic sentiment in order to cover up their true expansionist and hegemonistic plans threatening to plunge the country into unpredictable hardships and ordeals. All this runs counter to the basic interests of the Chinese people.

The aggressor unceremoniously assumes the right to "punish" the sovereign state of Vietnam, the right to determine the "bounds" of its aggressive actions and the time at which it sees fit, if at all, to suspend them. The aggressor's position is a most eloquent illustration of the great-China, chauvinistic contempt for other peoples, which shapes the ideology of the Maoist leaders. Such is the hegemonism in practice.

By refusing to end their aggression against Vietnam, the Chinese leaders are deliberately showing that despite the concern of the whole mankind and the call to heed the voice of reason, they are going to continue their irresponsible adventurist game with the destinies of peace. This and only this way their actions can be assessed.

Other explanations for the aggression in Vietnam are being found now and echoed by imperialist reaction. The outburst of popular indignation which has swept away the criminal Pol Pot clique is pictured by the Beijing rulers as an action inspired from the outside, and the founding of the People's Kampuchea--as a result of "foreign interference," which cannot be left unanswered. Undoubtedly, Pol Pot and his accomplices suited them. They were quite satisfied with the criminal regime of the clique of degenerates who exterminated almost a million of Kampucheans a year and staged innumerable provocations against the states neighbouring on Kampuchea.

And how could it be otherwise? Pol Pot and his henchmen were brought to power by Beijing, received its financial backing, blindly obeyed the orders of Chinese instructors. And these latter, thousands of Beijing emissaries, had planned in detail the wholesale annihilation of the Kampuchean people which, however, was merely the first stage of a camouflaged military-strategic operation. Prepared within the frameworks of this operation was a further Chinese assimilation of the preliminarily devastated and enslaved country, Kampuchea's transformation into China's important bridgehead intended to encircle "disobedient" Vietnam, offering direct access to Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. The tragedy of the Kampuchean people lies precisely in the fact that they were the first victims of Maoist expansionism.

The rulers would like to blur the true picture, make the peoples forget the terrible atrocities committed in Kampuchea on their demands and at their instigation. They are now pretending not to come out in behalf of their bankrupt placemen. If one is to believe Chinese propaganda, Beijing has resorted to armed force not for the purpose of perpetrating arbitrariness and violence, but in order to cut short the "arbitrariness of others," to "teach them a lesson" for disregarding China's interests, which the latter "will not tolerate." Isn't this the moral philosophy and "logics" of bandits?

The Beijing leadership long since regards the region of Indochina and all of Southeast Asia in general as a sphere of its influence. This is borne out both by the great-power vocabulary which Beijing uses ("will not tolerate," "punish," "teach a lesson," etc.), and, what is most important, by the actions to which it resorts. In the Maoist directives, which have by no means been denounced by Mao Zedong's successors, many countries of this region were listed not even as spheres of influence, but as "lost Chinese territories." Yet, in the mid-sixties, Mao urged the Chinese leadership not to spare expenses to "obtain" Southeast Asia.

The present Chinese aggression against Vietnam is far from the first one. For many centuries the Chinese emperors had their eye on Vietnamese land. This line was continued by the Qiang Gaishekists. Mao Zedong again resumed its attempts to subjugate Vietnam to China.

He planned to establish control over Vietnam after the victory of the people's revolution there, but to no avail. These attempts were resumed after the DRV was attacked by the United States. In that period the Chinese leaders sought consent to move their troops into northern Vietnam allegedly for the purpose of rendering assistance and support to the fighting Vietnamese people.

These solicitations were rejected. The Vietnamese declared that they would get the better of the interventionists themselves, and even more successfully if Beijing put up less obstacles to the deliveries through its territory of strategic supplies from the fraternal socialist states. Beijing drew corresponding conclusions--the obstacles were not decreased, but rather increased.

Beijing's pressure became particularly rude after the U.S. interventionists were driven out of Indochina and Vietnam was reunified. The day of the Vietnamese people's triumph, the day when the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was set up, became a signal for the Chinese rulers to launch military, economic and other hostile actions against the neighbouring country, to organize a chain of endless provocations both on the northern and on the southern borders of Vietnam.

The political circles of a number of Western countries are inclined to bury in oblivion the fact that Beijing opened the front in the south of Vietnam two years ago, when, by the Chinese order, the Pol-Pot clique rushed there tens of thousands of soldiers armed with Chinese weapons. All the efforts by the SRV to normalize the situation on the frontier with Kampuchea met with an icy refusal. China was seeking to make Vietnam fight on two fronts at a time, to take it in pincers.

The victory of the Kampuchean people, which created conditions for normal relations between Kampuchea and its neighbours, upset Beijing's plans. It failed to break through to the Gulf of Siam or to encircle Vietnam. That is precisely what enrages Beijing. Therein lies the real connection between the events in Kampuchea and what Beijing is now doing with regard to Vietnam.

Bourgeois propaganda is generally not scrupulous when it is required to use some farfetched arguments in the interests of this or other policy. But here, in the case of Kampuchea, this propaganda beats any records.

The most hated and inhuman regime in the world--this was the way that the Pol Pot clique was described a year, half a year and several months ago almost in all Western capitals. And then, overnight, the selfsame Western statesmen are now prepared to lovingly embrace the regime pretending that it still exists and has not been kicked out to land in the Beijing backyard.

Moreover, some people in the West are inclined to ignore the fact that the Beijing leaders today publicly pledge to continue their provocative attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Kampuchea--infiltrating their agents and weapons there, utilizing for the purpose the territories of the neighbouring Southeast Asian states, paying no heed to the sovereignty and interests of these states. Beijing vainly hopes to recreate on Kampuchean soil a stronghold for subversive, expansionist activities of the Maoist rulers of China.

It is characteristic that during the Chinese aggression against Vietnam there clearly surface the territorial claims as one of the major motives underlying Beijing's expansion. Many Vietnamese regions are declared either territory "belonging to China beyond any doubt" or as lands whose status "is still to be negotiated." A slogan has been put forward of "secure borders" for China whose meaning, one may assume, is well known, among others, to the peoples of the Middle East where Israel, under a similar pretext, is occupying for several decades some of the Arab territories. In a word, any propaganda ploy from Beijing is a lie, any argument--a falsehood. The aggressor is finagling, grasping at any opportunity to whitewash himself.

Aggression is a very unpopular business and there is nothing surprising about the desire of the Beijing rulers to somehow put a good face on their criminal undertaking. Other aggressors, including the Hitlerites, used to pass every attack or atrocity off as a forced measure of response posing as champions of justice and the rule of law.

And the methods now used by China in the temporarily seized areas do not differ from the style of fascist aggressions and colonial wars. That is well familiar to peoples: It is annihilation of the population, looting, destruction of buildings, enterprises, and apartment houses. In some capitalist states, they would like not to notice it all. In some of them the Beijing voice in the coverage of the present dangerous events is echoed not because they do not understand who is right and who is wrong. No, the causes are apparently deeper.

Many observers draw attention to the fact that the reaction of the U.S. administration to the Chinese aggression looks if not as approval, then at least most definitely as indirect encouragement. Official Washington only tried to dispel in a way the impression among the public and leading circles of most countries that there is a direct connection between the aggression and the recent Deng Xiaoping visit to the United States. The at least ambivalent stand taken by the U.S. ruling circles in face of the Chinese leadership's open threats against Vietnam has as a matter of fact contributed to Beijing's openly taking the war path.

The decision to start the invasion was taken by the Chinese leaders right after Deng Xiaoping's return from the USA and Japan and with regard to his report on the outcome of his talks in Washington. A considerable part of the troops sent against Vietnam now was far from the Vietnamese border, opposite Taiwan. After the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USA and China, in the course of which the Taiwan deal was confirmed, these troops were hastily sent to the border with Vietnam. Beijing does not deny the connection between the choice of the time for the aggression, the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese treaty and "normalization" of American-Sino relations.

The U.S. administration is known to note for the sake of appearances that "it does not approve" of Beijing's actions. It used in doing so "neat" a wording as so not to mar, God forbid, prospects for a further "normalization" of relations with China. It says that the "Chinese troops crossed Vietnam's border." It is no war, nor aggression or an attack, but just crossing the border caused allegedly by "Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia," as some people are trying to claim in the United States.

Even the American mass information media, which on the whole back the Carter administration's foreign policy line, note that the present trip of U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Blumenthal to the PRC gives reason to speak of U.S. support to the Chinese aggression.

The West makes no secret of the fact that the U.S. persistently recommended its allies to adhere to an analogous line in their official reaction to the developments, in the UN deliberations included.

The legitimate question arises: What are the calculations of the governments which, on the one hand, declare their awareness of the dangers with which the situation is fraught, their alarm over the influence exerted by the current developments on the destinies of peace, on the international situation as a whole, while, on the other, display readiness to "understand" Beijing, to place the aggressor on a par with its victim?

Any objective, unbiased person cannot help realising clearly that Beijing is, in fact, going over to the bloodshedding stage of its expansionist policy, which was proclaimed not today or yesterday, but which stems from the very essence of the man-hating aggressive nature of Beijing's great-power pretentions.

It should be equally clear also that the war conflagration may spread out if Beijing's aggression against Vietnam is not stopped, if the aggressor is not made to get out immediately. And those who today hope to warm themselves by its flames rashly risk to be the next victim of the aggressor and of his adventuristic policy.

Remember how Japan's militaristic war in China, Nazi Germany's and fascist Italy's intervention in Spain began in the 1930's. There were quite a few governments and politicians then, too, who hoped to sit out "while the others fought," who advocated noninterference, restraint and neutrality. There were people then, too, who were prepared to provide the aggressors with capital, strategic materials and arms in order not to "alienate" them from the international community. The sobering up of these politicians was bitter, indeed. But the heaviest price was paid by the peoples. Such lessons should not be forgotten.

In Vietnam, Maoist China is putting to a test its aggressive hegemonist policy. It is in the interests of all the peoples to discourage the Beijing adventurists from coveting other people's lands, encroaching upon the rights of others.

The attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is an act of aggression against a nation which has endured staunchly and heroically long-lasting ordeals in the struggle for their freedom and independence. It will be able to uphold them this time, too. Socialist Vietnam enjoys the firm and unconditional support of the fraternal states of the socialist community, which they have clearly reaffirmed.

As to the Soviet Union, the latter, loyal as it is to its internationalist duty and upholding steadfastly world peace, will fulfill, as pointed out in the Soviet Government's statement, the commitments assumed under the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The peoples of all the continents are angrily condemning these days the piratic attack of Beijing expansionists on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, are coming out for an immediate end to the intervention against this sovereign state.

Together with all the peoples of the world, the Soviet people demand resolutely an end to Beijing's criminal aggression and an immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from the territory of Vietnam.

Hands off Socialist Vietnam!

RADIO PEACE AND PROGRESS CARRIES APPEAL TO CHINESE PEOPLE

OW251395 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 25 Feb 79 OW

[Station appeal to Chinese people]

[Text] The news about the Chinese troops' invasion of Socialist Vietnamese territory has caused distress and anger among the Soviet people--distress because the peace of the people of disaster-stricken Vietnam has been disrupted, and anger because the crimes of the Beijing upper class ruling clique are a savage provocation against people who cherish peace, public well-being and justice.

Once again the flames of war are burning on Vietnamese soil. Chinese troops unscrupulously slaughter peaceful Vietnamese villagers and destroy their homes; they burn villages and towns and kill children, parents and old people. Everywhere the aggressors rape women, burn down houses and kill people, committing heinous crimes. In the areas they temporarily occupy, Chinese troops commit all sorts of crimes against peaceful Vietnamese inhabitants. Who can keep quiet, with arms folded, in the face of all these crimes?

Chinese regular troops conducted search operations in the occupied areas and killed all those who were unable to leave the combat zone in time, using flamethrowers to burn down villages. These troops were immediately followed by hooligans who looted houses, enterprises, cooperatives and the Vietnamese people they met on their way. The crimes committed by the Chinese troops are no different from those committed by the Japanese militarists during their occupation of China, with their three-point policy of "burn all, kill all, loot all."

Not long ago Beijing repeatedly vowed that China would faithfully maintain its everlasting friendship with Vietnam. Against this background, China's present invasion of Vietnam is an astounding event, and shows to what extent the Beijing upper class ruling clique has degenerated.

Launching a war of aggression against a neighboring socialist country is like stabbing the people of one's own country in the back. This is because the flames of war are reducing to ashes the Chinese laboring people's hopes for a better life. Because of the war, the Chinese people have no choice but to tighten their belts; they will have less grain for food.

However, this is not the most terrifying thing. Tens of thousands of people will die as a result of this war of aggression. The war will cost the Chinese people great sacrifices. Houses will be destroyed, schools burned, farms turned into ashes, and many people will die and shed blood. Do the Chinese people really want a war launched by the belligerents at Zhongnanhai?

The heroic Vietnamese people are fighting back in order to defend their rights, freedom, independence, socialism, homes and the future of their children. China's feudal rulers, Japanese militarists, French colonialists and U.S. imperialists--all have failed to defeat the Vietnamese people in the past. In resisting the savage war of aggression launched by the Beijing rulers, the Vietnamese people will again be invincible. The Vietnamese people enjoy the support of the Soviet Union, the powerful socialist community, and the world's progressive people. All people who cherish peace, freedom, independence and progress feel dutybound to support the Vietnamese people's just cause.

All honest Chinese people: Your special mission is to expose the belligerents of Zhongnanhai and to immediately stop their unjust acts. The unjust war of aggression against Vietnam launched by Beijing is shameful. The Chinese people who have suffered aggression from the imperialists on many occasions should refuse to become the Beijing adventurists' tools for aggression.

The Chinese people have been insulted and they feel a sense of guilt. However, we are confident that they will be brave enough to free themselves of this feeling of guilt and properly judge those people who launched the war of aggression--the militarist clique at Zhongnanhai.

Broadcasts Truth on PRC Aggression

OW271425 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin 1100 GMT 27 Feb 79 OW

[Text] The leading clique in Beijing has truculently and unreasonably invaded the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and described their act of aggression as an action it was forced to take to strike back at Vietnamese provocations. The chieftains in Beijing (?deliberately) planned a large-scale aggression, but stated that their military action against this neighboring country would be limited in both time and space. In fact, however, China's propaganda machine does not accurately report events in Socialist Vietnam. The reports occasionally carried by Chinese newspapers and radio stations deliberately misrepresent the facts. In fact, the Beijing authorities do not in the least want the Chinese people to know about the aggression they have started and the worldwide indignation at their action. It was recently learned that the CCP Central Committee and the PRC State Council issued a secret instruction strictly prohibiting the release of any news on the Vietnam situation, banning dazipao posters, demonstrations and meetings and forbidding people from listening to foreign radio broadcasts.

These measures by Beijing and local Chinese authorities show that they are afraid to tell the Chinese people about all the atrocities they have committed against the people of Socialist Vietnam. The ruling clique in Beijing is pursuing a wild policy which is tantamount to self-destruction as far as China is concerned. With a guilty conscience, they are afraid to arouse dissatisfaction among the Chinese people. But it is very obvious that the Chinese people sooner or later will learn about the atrocities committed by Beijing's militarists. Actually, who can pull the wool over the eyes of all the people in the country? Sooner or later the Chinese people will learn the truth of how Beijing's warlike elements started a war of aggression and how they launched a worldwide campaign to forbid intervention in Vietnam.

The broadcasts by Radio Peace and Progress are an important source of factual reports for listeners. This station broadcasts in the Mandarin, Cantonese and Shanghai dialects. We report on the truth in the war areas and how the world is reacting to China's aggression against Socialist Vietnam in every broadcast.

Radio Peace and Progress' Mandarin program time schedule is as follows (Beijing time): 0130, 0330, 0500, 0600, 0730, 0830, 1030, 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1900 and 2230. Wavelengths: 13, 16, 19, 25, 31, 41, 49, 203, 220, 240, 257, 292, 334, 375, 464 and 514 meters. This station's Shanghai dialect program times are (Beijing time): 1730, 1830 and 2000. Wavelengths: 16, 19, 25, 31, 41 and 49 meters. RPP's Cantonese program times are (Beijing time): 1700, 1800, 1900, 1930 and 2030. Wavelengths: 16, 25, 31 and 49 meters. Please listen to Radio Peace and Progress programs.

UK WARNED ON POTENTIAL LOSSES FROM PRC ARMS SALE

LD262218 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "London-Beijing, a Dangerous Alliance"]

[Text] Eric Varley has begun talks in Beijing on a giant deal for British industry. At a time when fierce fighting is continuing in Vietnam, a representative of Her Majesty's government is negotiating behind closed doors the possibility of supplying the Harrier fighter to a warring party. Also under discussion is the possibility of setting up plants to make tanks and other matters pertaining to armaments. Money, of course, doesn't smell, especially considering Britain's economic difficulties.

Revenue from Harriers, tanks and missiles might have an impact on the country's trade balance. But there is also a different aspect of the proposed deals. The weapons are meant for an aggressor, a country whose leaders feel they are free to choose any method of conducting relations with another country. On the very eve of Varley's arrival in Beijing, Deng Xiaoping met with Roy Jenkins who was in China in his capacity as chairman of the Commission of the European Community. The Chinese leader told him that China has taken its military action to punish Vietnam, and Beijing had [word indistinct] any possible risks involved in the action.

It is now known that the Chinese leadership made its final decision to invade Vietnam the day after Deng Xiaoping returned from the United States. During his talks with American leaders the Chinese guest had talks about a punitive action against Vietnam. His impression was that Washington would not oppose such an initiative. Moreover, Washington confirmed its agreement to NATO countries' selling arms to China. Beijing was given to understand that its new relationship with the United States would not be damaged by an act of aggression against Hanoi. Consequently, Beijing ordered its troops on the Vietnamese border to start an invasion of Vietnam.

The first week of the fighting showed that China had correctly assessed the situation. London was quick to say that China's invasion of Vietnam would not jeopardize talks on the supply of Harriers. According to a previous arrangement, Varley set out on a long trip. In Singapore he again made it clear that the Harrier is part of a wider deal already agreed. Moreover, Lord Goronwy-Roberts told the Vietnamese ambassador in London that Britain had no special sympathy for the plight of the Vietnamese following the Chinese invasion. Britain had thus outstripped all its allies in the European Community in taking a position conflicting with elementary logic and, in effect, justifying aggression.

Of course, Whitehall now realizes that selling arms to a warring party is tantamount to supporting the aggressor, but according to a GUARDIAN report, the government is hoping that what is called the limited conflict will be over when arms start flowing into China. This may well be the case, but there is one aspect of the whole affair which is quite significant, namely, that by its actions, Beijing has demonstrated that as far as it is concerned war is a continuation of its policies and that it will resort to military force whenever it deems necessary. Seventeen years ago China took similar action against India. Five years ago Chinese paratroopers captured the Paracel Islands. Now Vietnam has fallen victim to aggression. Who is the next in the line? There is a wide choice. The possibility that Harriers may strike a country where Britain has its own interests cannot be ruled out. When seen in this context any immediate benefits that may come from sales of British arms may in the end mean substantial losses for Britain, losses that will far outweigh financial gains.

BLUMENTHAL REPORTS GOOD, DETAILED TALKS IN BEIJING

LD272210 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Meanwhile, in Beijing, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Michael Blumenthal has met with Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping. For more than an hour they discussed the expansion of economic ties between their countries. After the meeting Secretary Blumenthal told reporters that the talks were very good and fairly detailed. He added he extended best wishes to Deng Xiaoping from President Carter. The United States will open its Embassy in Beijing on 1 March.

The Soviet national daily IZVESTIYA, in connection with Mr Blumenthal's visit, said that certain groups in Washington are impressed with the Beijing leader's statement that China intends to teach Vietnam a lesson. But they seem to have a short memory, the daily adds. Americans tried to teach Vietnam a lesson of this kind a short time ago, but everyone knows, the paper says, that the Americans had to withdraw in shame.

PRC HOLDS TALKS WITH IDB TO FINANCE FOUR MODERNIZATIONS

LD280756 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] China has started talks with the IDB in an attempt to join this organization. International affairs journalist Vladimir Sidorov comments:

China's leaders are actively seeking to strengthen their financial links with Western states. The talks which ended recently in Beijing between representatives of the Bank of China and the People's Construction Bank of China and an IDB delegation are proof of this.

The main aim of these talks is to replenish the Chinese treasury with new receipts of money in order to implement the so-called four modernizations plan. Beijing is devoting primary attention to implementing this program. Let me remind you that China envisages turning the country into a powerful state capable of achieving world hegemony through the four modernizations plan. This thought was also stressed in the materials of the 11th CCP Congress which took place after Mao Zedong's death. In an accountability report to the congress, Hua Guofeng cited Mao's statement that war is inevitable and that there will not be any stable peace. Hua called for the construction of a mighty power with modern agriculture, modern industry and modern science and technology. In the four modernizations defense comes in third place. But what is the true situation? This entire program is aimed at further improving the armed forces and the industrial sectors serving them. At all the latest conferences the task is set to make a maximum effort to increase the strength of the army and modernize it, incorporating the latest innovations of science and technology. To achieve world supremacy, the present-day (bakhdykhany) do not balk at any means including an armed attack on a neighboring state. An example of this is the aggressive war unleashed by China against Socialist Vietnam. This bandit attack clearly shows how reckless China's attitude is toward the fate of peace.

On the instructions of the Beijing leaders, the Chinese military clique has unceremoniously trampled on the elementary norms of international law. Beijing requires additional military appropriations for this course and it increasingly looks to the West for this purpose.

IZVESTIYA TEXT OF REPORT ON CHNOUPEK USSR VISIT

LD271627 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Unattributed report "On CSSR Foreign Minister B. Chnoupek's Visit to the USSR"]

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR foreign minister, was in the Soviet Union 17 through 22 February 1979 on a visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Talks were held between B. Chnoupek and A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

During the talks the sides noted with satisfaction that relations between the USSR and the CSSR, which are based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and on the 6 May 1970 friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance treaty, are developing successfully.

They emphasized the special significance of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the 15th CPCZ Congress and of the regular meetings and talks between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, for strengthening fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the CPSU and the CPCZ and between USSR and the CSSR.

The USSR and the CSSR voiced firm determination to strengthen the socialist community's unity and cohesion and to improve the coordination of the socialist countries' foreign policy activities on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis within the framework of the Warsaw Pact. They regard the decisions of the Moscow conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee as an important joint program of the fraternal socialist countries, to attain disarmament and to strengthen peace and the peoples' security and are fully resolved to promote its realization in every possible way.

It was pointed out that multilateral cooperation within the framework of CEMA, whose 30th anniversary is being celebrated in 1979, serves as an important factor in strengthening the economic potential of the USSR and CSSR, as well as the other socialist countries.

The sides attach great significance to strengthening peace and security on the European Continent and to further developing cooperation among states with different sociopolitical systems, and they emphasized the determination of the USSR and the CSSR to strive for the full implementation of all principles and provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki conference and came out in favor of further broadening cooperation on an all-European basis, including on questions of environmental conservation and the development of transport and power generation.

The USSR and the CSSR condemn the actions of militarist circles in imperialist countries which, hiding behind the false thesis of the "Soviet military threat," push people onto the dangerous path of building up weapons arsenals, and they emphasize the need to end the arms race, to reduce weapons stockpiles, to proceed to real disarmament measures and, in the final analysis, to advance toward general and complete disarmament.

The participants in the talks were unanimous that the conclusion of a new agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms between the USSR and the United States would be of exceptionally great significance for detente and the strengthening of peace. They also advocated the speediest elaboration of mutually acceptable solutions at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe while observing the principle of not prejudicing the security of either side.

The Soviet Union and the CSSR decisively condemn China's aggression against Socialist Vietnam and voice their fraternal solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people in their struggle to defend their national sovereignty, freedom and independence. The responsibility for Beijing's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam lies totally with China's present leadership. The invasion of Vietnam by Chinese troops is a most fragrant violation of the UN Charter and of all generally accepted norms of international law and is an act of tyranny and violence, which poses a serious danger to world peace. The position of the USSR and the CSSR is set out clearly and precisely in the Soviet Government statement of 18 February and the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR Government statement of 18 February respectively.

The USSR and the CSSR confirmed their policy of supporting the People's Republic of Kampuchea and came out against Beijing's attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of that sovereign state.

The sides resolutely oppose any interference in Iran's internal affairs, confirming their respect for the state's sovereignty and independence.

The sides support the anti-imperialist thrust in the activities of nonaligned countries and their contribution to the struggle for peace, to strengthen detente, for disarmament, and to liquidate the vestiges of colonialism and racism. They voice the hope that at this year's conference of nonaligned countries in Havana its participants will take a new step along the path of rallying peace-loving anti-imperialist forces in the interests of deepening international cooperation and strengthening peace.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding. They displayed full unity of views on all questions of world politics.

CSSR Foreign Minister B. Chnoupek passed on to A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, an invitation from the CPCZ Central Committee and the CSSR Government to pay an official friendly visit to Czechoslovakia. This invitation was gratefully accepted. The timing of the visit will be agreed on later through diplomatic channels.

GDR'S OSKAR FISCHER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD271804 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1737 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow--At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Oskar Fischer, member of the SED Central Committee and GDR foreign minister, arrived in Moscow on a visit today.

CLAIM OF SOVIET THREAT KEPT ALIVE IN BRITAIN

LD272300 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

["Glance at the British Scene" program: Vladimir Vyazov commentary]

[Text] To ask anyone in the Soviet Union whether there is a Soviet threat to Britain is to ask a very absurd question indeed. The purpose of Soviet foreign and home policy, its philosophy and diplomatic moves, is to secure peaceful conditions for the achievements of the objectives of socialist construction set out in the very first days of Soviet government. Yet, the claim of a Soviet threat is constantly kept alive in Britain, as it crops up in pronouncements made by political leaders and in lengthy publications contributed by retired and serving generals. This is supported by many examples. One of the more recent is the report published by a group of conservatives. (Derek Bragg) is the name that appears on its cover and the report is called "Foreign Policy and Defense: A Role for Europe." The authors' overall objective is to present the bogey of what they call the Soviet threat in its two main aspects, military and political. This theme is seconded by THE SUNDAY TIMES which said some time ago that the new arms build-up in Britain was going on under the smokescreen of allegations about a Soviet threat. The paper even deemed it necessary to talk about the growing threat of a Soviet bombing raid on Britain. These and other similar allegations are built on a false premise, as is seen from the record of Soviet-British relations.

Since 1917 the Soviet Union has never threatened Britain, nor has it ever taken any military action against her. No threats against Britain can be found in any speech by a Soviet leader or in any Soviet document. In fact, the Soviet Union has done everything necessary to encourage bilateral relations, to develop them on the basis of peaceful coexistence, relaxation, security and cooperation. And the Soviet Union continues to pursue that policy course at present.

A different picture emerges when the history of Anglo-Soviet relations is viewed from a different angle. Britain and other imperialist powers intervened militarily in the Soviet state soon after it came into being. In the 1930's, Chamberlain and Daladier did all they could to channel the aggression of Hitler's Germany towards the east. It was much later, at the time of World War II, when things were really bad for Britain, that the British Government felt impelled to act jointly with the Soviet Union. Later, Winston Churchill's notorious Fulton speech signaled the postwar tensions which led to the cold war. We now know from government documents written 30 years ago, and recently made public, that in 1948 Winston Churchill ardently advocated a plan of nuclear war against the Soviet Union. An equally graphic example is Britain's declared readiness to help develop the military potential of China, whose leaders regard hostility towards the Soviet Union as a matter of government policy and have already launched open aggression against Vietnam.

In the light of these facts, who is threatening whom is not as easy question to answer. To be more exact, this question is grossly misinterpreted in Britain. An important touchstone for assessing the true foreign policy objectives of a country is its views on the need to curb the arms race and achieve disarmament. London takes a modest attitude in this respect, although there are good opportunities for safeguarding British security. The Soviet Union and Britain maintain a degree of cooperation in the field of disarmament, but on the whole it and other NATO countries have been building their military budgets and developing new weaponry in response to the Soviet Union's consistent proposals to activate disarmament talks and expand cooperation in this field.

III. 28 Feb 79

E 2

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WEST EUROPE & CANADA

PATOLICHEV ADDRESSES MOSCOW SOVIET-ITALIAN TRADE MEETING

LD272142 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 27, TASS--The Soviet-Italian economic relations are developing successfully and involving ever new spheres of economy, including several large-scale projects, it is pointed out in the message of greetings addressed by Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to the participants of the general assembly of the Italian-Soviet Chamber of Commerce. This meets the national interests of both states and creates a solid foundation for the further expansion of stable long-term economic relations, for the development and deepening of mutual understanding between our two countries.

The message of greetings was read out today at the meeting of the assembly, which is attended here by about 200 representatives of Italian industrial and commercial circles.

A report on the development of commercial and economic relations between the two countries was delivered by Nikolay Patolichev, foreign trade minister of the USSR. The characteristic features of these relations, he noted, are stability, mutual benefit, rich experience in business relations, possibilities for further expansion. During the past fifteen years trade turnover between the Soviet Union and Italy increased more than nine times over and amounted to about 2,000 million roubles in 1978.

The long-term program of deepening economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries constitutes a practical implementation of the provisions and principles of the Final Act of the all-European conference in Helsinki, Patolichev stressed.

Luciano Radi, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Italy, noted that the Italian Government attached great importance to the expansion of economic, scientific and technical relations with the Soviet Union. The climate of mutual confidence allows to achieve high results, he stressed.

The general assembly heard the report of the administrative council on the chamber's activities, outlined the main trends of work in 1979.

KIRILLIN DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH FRENCH SCIENCE OFFICIAL

LD271952 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1627 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 27 Feb, TASS--Vladimir Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received Pierre Aigrain, French secretary of state for scientific research attached to the premier's office. They discussed questions of the further development and deepening of scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and France.

Taking part in the discussion were High Commissioner of the Atomic Energy Commission Jean Teillac and French Ambassador to the USSR Bruno de Leusse.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES ULTERIOR PURPOSE OF CAMP DAVID

LD280228 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Dangerous Game"]

[Text] The new separate meeting at Camp David has been temporarily broken off. Washington is making desperate attempts to rescue the talks from ultimate failure. U.S. President Carter has said that he has invited As-Sadat and Begin to hold another summit meeting. Here, the following question inevitably arises: What is the purpose of another Camp David summit? Before anything else one must say that the holding of this tripartite meeting is in itself a result of the recent failures of U.S. policy in the Middle East. It is evidence that the agreements signed at Camp David in September by President Carter, As-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin completely failed as the Arab nations and progressive opinion in a number of states rejected them. Egypt found itself isolated in the Arab world, and indeed it faced the danger of political and economic sanctions being taken against it if it went ahead with signing the separate agreement with Israel.

These sanctions were decided upon in Baghdad at the Arab summit conference at which the Arab leaders laid down a group of countermeasures to be applied if Egypt agreed to implement the Camp David agreement. And under such circumstances it was impossible, as far as Cairo was concerned, to sign the agreement despite pressures by Washington.

It is clear from numerous commentaries recently published in international newspapers, and particularly during the 10-day visit of U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown to four Middle East countries, that attention is now focused on other issues and not those which existed in September. The United States, which has been overwhelmed by great anxiety because of the failure it suffered in Iran, is trying to strengthen its military presence in the Middle East and find a substitute for the bases it lost in Iran. It is also trying to set up a military alliance in this area if possible.

It is true that the crisis in Iran is driving the United States to intensify its pressures on Egypt and Israel to make them agree but, as U.S. newspapers point out, strengthening U.S. military positions in the Middle East, particularly in the gulf area, where the oil reserves of the capitalist world are located, is much more important to Washington than conclusion of an agreement between Egypt and Israel. About this, the New York TIMES says that 6 months ago the United States had two strong allies in this area--Iran and Israel. It was expected that a third ally, Egypt, be added to them. But now Iran has left the group. The Washington POST says that the change of government in Iran undermined U.S. positions in the entire Middle East and Asia in general.

Tel Aviv and Cairo are aware that the value of each has now increased in Washington. Consequently, they have been trying to obtain as much economic and military aid as they can. However, the matter is not only confined to this. The Israeli leadership has explained quite clearly that it is prepared to play the role of major base of imperialism in the Middle East, the role Israel has performed for long years, and that it is prepared to add to this the role of the policeman in the gulf area.

And now Tel Aviv has made us remember the Begin plan which was put forward in June 1977 to make Haifa a base for the U.S. Sixth Fleet provided that this base is covered from the air by aircraft from various air bases including the airfields in the Sinai Peninsula. As regards the Egyptian leaders who bet on the alliance with Washington, they in turn do not wish to let their opportunity slip away despite being compelled to constantly take into account the attitudes of the other Arab states.

Some days ago, the British DAILY TELEGRAPH said that Egypt has put forward a proposal that the vessels of the U.S. Sixth Fleet should make more frequent visits to Egyptian ports and the cruises of the U.S. vessels in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean should be doubled.

There was also a report from Cairo saying that the As-Sadat regime is prepared to play the role of policeman in the gulf. Cairo has sent units of Egyptian commandoes and landing troops to Oman to suppress the national liberation movement there. Thus, we see that both Israel and Egypt offer their readiness to cooperate with the United States. The new meeting at Camp David is evidence of this.

U.S. imperialism now, more than any time before, wants to achieve a military alliance in the Middle East without linking this to the signing of the agreement between Egypt and Israel. At the sametime, as evident from U.S. newspaper reports, highly mobile forces are being formed of two divisions and one unit of the Marines [as heard] to cooperate in the gulf in an emergency.

The upshot is this: There are plans for direct armed intervention--a matter which has been condemned more than once by all the Arab nations which made great efforts and spilled the blood of their sons to expel the colonialists from their homeland. These plans are being exposed by many statesmen and newspapers in Arab countries. An example of this is that the Kuwait foreign minister said that his government opposes the idea of setting up any military alliances in the gulf area. In a statement to the correspondent of the Kuwaiti AL-ANBA', Shaykh as-Sabah said: We, the gulf states, are capable of defending ourselves in the face of any outside aggression. Kuwait's attitude is quite clear. We oppose any military or nonmilitary alliances and, together with our brothers and friends, we will take the measures which will enable our area to avert the danger of conflicts.

It remains to be said that the Arab nations know well the plight which had been caused by imperialism and Zionism. The historical facts affirm that joint action on a principled basis--the basis of opposing imperialism--is the one that can achieve peace in the Middle East and attain a just solution to the basic Arab issues and not alliance with these hostile forces.

Demchenko Commentary

LD271653 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Pavel Demchenko "commentator's column": "Camp David Again"]

[Text] In the American President's country retreat the Egyptian-Israeli talks have resumed with the participation of the U.S. secretary of state.

The very fact that this trilateral meeting has been convened is further evidence of the failure suffered recently by Washington's Near East policy. Let us recall merely the fact that the signing of a separate "peace treaty" between Egypt and Israel, widely publicized by the American press, planned for 17 December, has not taken place. So a "new Camp David" had to be convened.

It is no secret that the international situation now is different from that of, say, 6 months ago, when Presidents J. Carter and A. as-Sadat, and Prime Minister M. Begin, stated that only one step remained to agreement. Practically all the Arab states, even those which Washington numbered among its "allies," came out resolutely in Baghdad against a separate deal and threatened Egypt with political and economic sanctions if it were to take this rash step regardless.

A considerable impact has been made on the situation by the Iranian crisis, which roused the United States to intensify pressure on Egypt and Israel to lead them to agreement and thereby bind them still more closely to its own political line. This tendency was manifested, for instance, in the distribution of American military "aid" to foreign states for next year. The lion's share--\$1,785 million--is earmarked for Israel, and \$751 million for Egypt.

Of course, both Cairo and Tel Aviv are aware that their countries' significance for Washington has increased, and they are trying to up the ante. But that is not all. According to the New York TIMES, leading Israeli figures, unwilling as before, to make concessions on the Palestinian question, now doubt the expediency of evacuating their airbases from the Sinai Peninsula, agreed on earlier.

In upping their price Israeli representatives do not tire of repeating that since the changes in Iran they are prepared to take on the role of "policemen" in the Persian Gulf. Cairo also claims this role, calculating that this will improve its stock in Washington and help at the talks with Israel. The more so as under the threat of sanctions from the Arabs the Egyptian leaders are afraid of making new concessions to Israel.

All this is making Western observers skeptical about the prospects for the talks which have begun at Camp David. The experience which has already been accumulated gives grounds for concluding that no separate deals or circuitous maneuvers can lead the Near East to lasting peace.

PRAVDA CITES TUDEH PARTY ON PRC IN SRV

LD231131 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 February publishes on page 5 under the heading "Halt the Aggression and Withdraw Chinese Forces from Vietnam Immediately!" a 700-word TASS-attributed roundup of foreign reaction to the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. The roundup includes the following passage:

"China's perfidious attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] has profoundly shaken all honest and peace-loving people of the world," a statement by the People's Party of Iran Central Committee says. 'The Chinese leaders long ago embarked on the path of collusion with the blackest imperialist forces and have openly betrayed the interests of the peoples and the anti-imperialist movements. The People's Party of Iran believes that the aggression against the SRV unleashed by the Chinese leaders is a betrayal of the cause of peace and international security.'"

MOROCCO'S KING HASSAN COMMENTS ON SHAH'S STATUS

LD271531 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Text] TASS, New York, 23 February--King Hassan II of Morocco has stated that the shah of Iran can no longer be regarded as a monarch and can therefore remain on Moroccan territory only as a private person. In an interview for the ABC television company he stressed that the antimonarchist revolution in Iran has changed the distribution of forces in the Near and Middle East in favor of the Arabs and weakened Israel's position.

CONFLICT BETWEEN YAR, PDRY HEIGHTENS

LD271805 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] London, February 27, TASS--As is reported by the Washington correspondent of the REUTER news agency, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Morris Draper has said that the United States will send to the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) a large consignment of arms worth more than 100 million dollars.

According to M. Draper, the arms are intended "for struggle against South Yemen." The decision on arms deliveries to the Yemen Arab Republic was taken after the recent trip to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown who upon return to the United States set out a plan of intensification of imperialist interference of the United States into affairs of the Middle East which can lead only to still greater tension in that region.

Aden, February 27, TASS--According to official reports published here, armed clashes flared up on the frontier between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic in the past few days. As is said in a statement of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, troops of Northern Yemen attacked to [as received] territory of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in the area of Bayhan-Mukheiras. The armed forces and the people's militia of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen rebuffed the South Yemeni units. The fighting in the area is continuing.

All attempts of imperialism and the forces of reaction to undermine the national sovereignty of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen will suffer a failure, just as all conspiracies against the people and the national-democratic system of the republic were a failure in the past, says a statement of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Meanwhile, as is noted in a communique of the people's revolutionary forces of the National-Democratic Front, acting on the territory of North Yemen, units of these forces established control over the North Yemeni towns of Kaataba and Marais. Subsequent communiques of the people's revolutionary forces of the National Democratic Front say that units of the National Democratic Front have established full control over the towns of El-Beida and Harib. Armed clashes also continue in that area.

Cairo, February 27, TASS--It has been officially announced here that the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic has complained to the League of Arab States accusing the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen of attacking North Yemen.

SYRIAN, SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES SIGN AGREEMENT

ID261416 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 26 Feb 79 ID

[Text] A plan for cooperation for 1979-80 among the Union of the Soviet Friendship Societies, the USSR-Syria Friendship Society, and the Society for Arab Syrian-Soviet Friendship was signed in Moscow today.

In accordance with the plan, (?activists) in both countries will mark each other's national days and holidays. The exchange of delegations and exhibitions will continue, and days of friendship and film festivals will continue to be held.

CPSU DELEGATION STUDIES EDUCATION, CULTURE IN SYRIA

ID221519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Feb 79 p 4 ID

[Text] TASS--In accordance with the plan for party ties between the CPSU and the Ba'th Party, a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by G. D. Iutoshkin, secretary of the Tyumenskiy Obkom, was in Syria from 12 through 19 February.

The delegation members toured the country and familiarized themselves with the Ba'th Party's experience in the sphere of culture and public education.

RHODESIAN PARLIAMENT APPROVES SO-CALLED CONSTITUTION

LD212216 Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMT 21 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, February 21, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Novikov reports: The Rhodesian Parliament has approved this Tuesday the so-called "constitution," which perpetuates all the principal privileges of the white minority. Drawn up by the racials with the active participation of a group of African collaborationists, who betrayed the liberation struggle of the Zimbabwe people and had gone over to the side of their oppressors, it has the purpose of leaving in power a neocolonial government in Rhodesia.

In conformity with the "constitution," the Europeans, who account for a twentieth of the country's population, will get almost the third of the seats in the Parliament and also the right to veto any bill that does not suit them. Thus, they will remain complete masters in the country, wielding full political and economic power.

On the basis of the "constitution," the Salisbury authorities intend to carry out this April so-called "general elections" and to legalise, thereby, the colonial regime existing in Rhodesia. By means of this trick, Ian Smith and his transoceanic patrons expect to secure on "lawful" grounds a recognition of the racist regime and lifting of the international economic sanctions against it. Being firmly convinced that this time, too, the Western nations will not abandon him, Ian Smith requested Britain and the United States to send their observers to the forthcoming rigged elections.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON RHODESIAN AIR ATTACK AGAINST ANGOLA

LD271840 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Vladimir Petrov commentary]

[Text] Rhodesian Air Force planes have violated Angola's airspace and bombed a number of areas in the south of the country. Our observer Vladimir Petrov comments: I believe this act of air piracy by the Rhodesian racists against yet another frontline country is more than just a sign of escalation of the aggressiveness of the Ian Smith regime, aggressiveness that has the silent encouragement of the regime's Western patrons. The activities of the Rhodesian elite reveal certain psychological and political calculations. As the rulers in Salisbury trample on international law they realize, of course, that their bombing raids against Zimbabwe refugee camps will not make the patriotic forces give up their fight for real independence of their country. The racists fully realize that the frontline states will not give in to intimidation and stop supporting the liberation movement in southern Africa. By stepping up their air raids, the Salisbury leaders want to show Africa and the rest of the world that it is they who are in full control of the situation and not the Zimbabwe patriotic forces. So much so that they can even challenge their independent African neighbor militarily.

The West is using Salisbury's stand to justify its continuing rapprochement with Ian Smith. In this context one can understand why Washington and London have given up their plan for a so-called peace settlement in Rhodesia. Evidently, Anglo-American diplomacy is now placing its stakes on consolidation of the positions held by the Ian Smith regime as it works to implement its own internal settlement plan, a plan that provides for illegal elections in April for the establishment of a puppet regime on the basis of these elections and against the will of the people. But the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front is firmly determined to smash the schemes of the racists and their Western patrons. It [words indistinct] Africa and progressive forces the world over. As one of its leaders, Robert Mugabe, said, the air raids staged by the Smith regime are nothing but the last kicks of a horse in its death throes.

NEW KENYAN ECONOMIC POLICY NOT ANSWER TO PROBLEMS

LD171006 Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 16 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Some observers in Kenya and elsewhere describe the economic policy of its government as a combination of new and old trends. They speak of a combination of continuity and vigorous encouragement of new trends. But I'd say it's rather a frantic search of any measures to help Kenya break the private enterprise bottleneck that's been besetting the country for many years. The IMF has suggested devaluing the Kenyan shilling to overcome the currency and financial difficulties the country faces, but the Kenyan Government has rejected the proposal, saying inflation in the first place would affect the masses of working people. Instead it announced measures to reduce the credit and government control over the national currency reserves. Naturally, measures of this kind may lead to some results because foreign business interests enjoy more than beneficial conditions in Kenya. But the results are likely to be limited. There has been no sign that the Western companies operating in Kenya are growing weaker; on the contrary, they grow stronger. No wonder the Kenyan Government has taken steps to improve relations with the capitalist world. Experience proves, however, that broader trade and business contacts with the capitalist nations give good results only if a developing country manages to withstand their economic pressure. A developing country that chooses the capitalist way of development is bound to obey the laws of capitalism. The main of the laws [as heard] is the encroachment upon the rights of weaker partners. Characteristically, the Group of 77 has said at its conference in Arusha that economic relations between the developing countries and the Western nations have never been equal. That is why a large part of the Kenyan public feels that the new economic measures announced in the country will hardly help take some edge off the economic problems. Nor will they help solve the social problems Kenya faces.

OAU MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETS IN NAIROBI

LD271110 Moscow TASS in English 1011 GMT 27 Feb LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 27, TASS--The TASS special correspondents, Aleksandr Osipov and Geliy Skobelev, report: Substantial resources from the new budget of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) were allocated to the expansion of economic contacts and cooperation between states of Africa. The session of the OAU Council of Ministers here adopted the budget for the 1979-1980 fiscal year to the amount of 14.5 million dollars. The foreign ministers also endorsed a resolution on the expansion of inter-African cooperation and the further development of contacts between OAU member-countries and developing states of other continents.

Peter Onu, the deputy secretary general of the OAU for political affairs, speaking at a press conference, surveyed the proceedings of the committees, set up by the session, which discussed various political, economic and organisational questions. Of particular importance has been the activity of the Liberation Committee, the main coordinating agency of the OAU in the struggle for the final elimination of the vestiges of colonialism and racism on the continent.

The committee has to present a report to the OAU Council of Ministers on the basis of which collective steps will be worked out which must be taken in retaliation to the criminal armed actions of the Rhodesian racists against independent states of Africa. The deputy secretary general said that the Organisation of African Unity paid much attention to a settlement of the conflict between Uganda and Tanzania. The OAU committee for the settlement of inter-African conflicts listened to a report by special missions, which had visited the capitals of both countries. The proceedings of the committee, he remarked, were of a positive nature.

U.S. DELIBERATELY DELAYS RESUMPTION OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS

Kozin PRAVDA Article

LD221629 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[V. Kozin article under "At Your Request" rubric: "Specific Action Needed"--first paragraph is PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] Readers Ye. Ivanov and Ye. Ratner from Moscow, K. Snegurov from Odessa and others ask for an account of the talks between the USSR and the United States on the limitation and subsequent reduction of military activity in the Indian Ocean.

The talks on the Indian Ocean between the USSR and the United States were begun to examine questions directly relating not only to regional military detente but also to the political relaxation of international tension as a whole. The successful completion of these talks would greatly help to implement the well-known proposal to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and to strengthen security in this region, where one-third of the planet's population lives.

The talks have a comparatively brief history. They began in June 1977, when specially empowered delegations from the USSR and the United States met in Moscow with a view to exchanging opinions on possible steps to promote arms limitation in the Indian Ocean region. Three further rounds of talks have been held since. At the Washington talks in September 1977 the sides examined possible paths leading to arms limitation in the Indian Ocean region and specific aspects of the problem. At the meeting in the Swiss city of Bern in December the same year, the Soviet and U.S. delegations discussed proposals submitted with respect to an agreement aimed at limiting the two countries' military activity in the Indian Ocean. During the fourth round of talks held in February last year the delegations continued their discussion of the proposals. The results of the four rounds as a whole show that the talks have entered the practical phase.

However, some time has elapsed since the fourth round and the talks have not been resumed. Anyone who tries to ascertain the reasons for this prolonged delay invariably reaches one and the same answer: The resumption of the talks is being deliberately delayed by the U.S. side. It is easy to be convinced of this if you study the statements made by the two countries' statesmen and examine their specific actions in this respect. Thus, while last year the Soviet Union spoke twice--at the UN General Assembly special session and 33d session--of the need to resume the talks without delay, official U.S. representatives have tried only to add to their stock of unconvincing excuses which they use to justify their reluctance to sit down at the conference table. And their specific actions? Not a month had elapsed after the end of the February round before a new U.S. naval task force including a missile carrier, two frigates and one auxiliary vessel was sent into Indian Ocean waters. The expansion of the military base on Diego Garcia is still continuing and new military installations are being constructed and old ones modernized on Australia's Indian Ocean coast, including the new Cockburn Sound naval base.

As for the Soviet Union, it has always approached these talks--and indeed other talks on limiting and halting the arms race--very seriously and responsibly. The Soviet Union has proposed and continues to propose a radical solution to the problem of military activity in the Indian Ocean.

In the document "Practical Ways to Halt the Arms Race" submitted for examination by the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, the USSR proposed that immediately after the conclusion of an agreement on freezing or stabilizing military activity in the Indian Ocean at the present levels, talks should be held on the resolute reduction of this activity, including the closure of foreign military bases. The document also speaks of the need to "intensify" the talks which have been begun, "without allowing unjustified breaks which only delay their completion."

The Soviet Union advocates the speediest completion of the talks on the limitation and subsequent reduction of military activity in the Indian Ocean, expecting a similar approach from the United States. All peoples are interested in this.

NOVOYE VREMYA Commentary

LD232040 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Here is a commentary about the Soviet-American talks on the Indian Ocean from the weekly NEW TIMES.

The talks started in June 1977. They dealt with problems concerning the whole of the international community and especially the coastal states of the Indian Ocean. The Soviet Union and the United States have completed four rounds of talks. The world press noted that the talks had reached their practical stage. In fact, the two sides did achieve certain progress on the way to an agreement that would provide for the so-called freezing of both countries' military presence in the Indian Ocean and for their abstaining from deploying strategic armed forces there. During the fourth round held in Bern from the 7th to 17th February last year, the two sides began to draft several parts of their agreement. There remained many unresolved problems, but common formulas on a number of issues had been found.

Unfortunately, after the fourth round the talks stopped. Actually, the United States has turned down the Soviet Union's proposal to resume the negotiations. But why? It seems that the United States wanted to use the very fact of its participation in the talks to damp down the criticism of its policy in the Indian Ocean. But the practical outcome of the talks did not concern the United States at all. That is why, as soon as the talks entered their practical stage and the possibility emerged to work out an agreement, the United States suspended the talks. At the same time it continues building up its military presence in the region. Following the events in Iran the number of the United States naval ships in the Indian Ocean has doubled. The equipping of the American base on Diego Garcia is being intensified. Since the American side has not officially declared that it stops the talks there is an impression that they are going on.

However, every stop on the road to a disarmament agreement, especially in the Indian Ocean, means a buildup in the arms race and every stop aside from the talks a step away from the relaxation of tension. And to gamble on the talks relating to the curbing of the arms race and for the disarmament means to take a serious responsibility upon oneself.

III. 28 Feb 79

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
SOUTHEAST ASIA

K 1

PHILIPPINE TREATY AMENDMENTS DO NOT AFFECT U.S. BASES

LD191202 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 18 Feb 79 LD

[Vladimir Sidorov commentary]

[Text] Gen David Jones, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, has visited Manila and held talks with the Philippines leadership on questions of security. Here is international affairs journalist Vladimir Sidorov:

Hardly had one of President Carter's main military advisers gotten off the plane when he immediately dotted all the i's with regard to the aims of his visit. Speaking at Manila airport the visitor from across the ocean made it clear to journalists that the United States is planning to maintain its military presence in the Philippines. Jones went so far as to say that he cannot foresee the possibility of the withdrawal of American bases from Philippines territory.

At the same time this U.S. strategist referred to the agreement on U.S. military sites on Philippine territory.

I would like to recall that recently several amendments were introduced to the relevant treaty which was signed 31 years ago. Thus the Philippines flag flies alongside the American flag on the bases. The post of Philippine base commander has been established; but this commander has absolutely no legal rights.

It is planned to slightly decrease the territory occupied by the American Clark air force base and the Subic Bay naval base. One amendment in particular decimates the sovereignty of the Philippines and is causing concern among Filipinos. It guarantees the United States unhampered holding of any military operations. It is appropriate to note that it was from Subic Bay, as the American press reported, that a group of U.S. naval ships left to take up positions in the Persian Gulf within the framework of the [word indistinct] diplomacy. It was only the indignation of world opinion that forced a halt to this demonstration of force in that area. Thus all these amendments have changed nothing in the status of the American military bases. This also explains why Washington's envoy, General Jones, behaved so confidently in the Philippines. His statements prove that the United States is striving to consolidate its military presence in Asia and the Pacific and is not ceasing in its attempts to draw the countries of that region into the orbit of the Pentagon's military strategy.

COMMENTARY ON THAI PRIME MINISTER'S MARCH VISIT TO USSR

LD271752 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In March, the prime minister of Thailand, Kriangsak Chamanan, will arrive for an official visit to the Soviet Union. Our commentator writes:

The first visit of the head of Thai government is a logical result of the development of Soviet-Thai relations over the past few years. The diplomatic relations broken off by the war were restored between the two countries in 1946. After that the Soviet Union backed Thailand's application to enter the United Nations. In 1956 the diplomatic missions of both countries were given the status of embassies.

This opened up new possibilities for developing bilateral relations. It would be no mistake to say that the improvement in Soviet-Thai relations in the seventies is due to the relaxation of world tensions and the realistic policy of the new Thai leaders. After the downfall of the military dictatorship, opportunities considerably widened for the public of the two countries to expand cooperation and achieve mutual understanding.

Trade and economic ties have notably grown. In the first half of 1978, for example, trade turnover between Thailand and the Soviet Union grew by a third, as compared with the corresponding period of 1977 and tripled as compared with 1971. The Soviet Union notes with satisfaction that the positions of businessmen who support further trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are becoming stronger. In its turn this country, a major trade partner of many Asian nations, is ready to further expand ties with Thailand.

In 1970 the two countries signed a trade agreement granting both sides a most-favored-nation status. The same principle underlies Thailand's trade documents signed with Vietnam, Laos, Hungary and Czechoslovakia signed last year. This is another manifestation of the positive tendency to good neighborliness, cooperation and peaceful coexistence. Hopefully, this tendency will be strengthened by the results of Kriangsak Chamanan's visit to the Soviet Union.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON PRC INVASION OF SRV

PRC Expanding Aggression

LD271506 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 27, TASS--China continues to expand the aggressive war against Vietnam, sending new infantry, artillery and tank units to the battle area.

As reported by the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA), on February 24 and 25 the Chinese aggressors concentrated big forces on the Lang Son and Cao Bang directions. Fierce fighting continues there. The armed forces and population of Chang Dinh district in Lang Son Province attacked the enemy, killing more than 300 soldiers and seizing large quantities of weapons.

The Chinese launched offensive actions in the area of the town of Mong Cai, but were repulsed by Vietnamese fighting men. In Cao Bang Province the Vietnamese Armed Forces are dealing unceasing blows at the Chinese aggressors. More than 600 enemy soldiers were killed.

Troops and the population in Hoang Lien Son Province continue to deal telling blows at enemy units in Cam Duong district where the aggressors have concentrated much infantry with tanks and artillery. The aggressors are building up the grouping of their troops in Vietnam's northern provinces. They have thrown two paratroop divisions into the fighting area.

The Chinese troops have lost 18,000 men killed since the beginning of the aggression against Vietnam. 170 tanks, about 120 military vehicles and 12 heavy guns were destroyed.

Information agencies draw attention to the concentration of Chinese troops on the juncture of the borders of China, Vietnam and Laos, to the possibility of the spreading of Beijing's aggression also to the Laotian People's Democratic Republic. The concentration of troops, the envigoration of agents in Laos, attempts to provoke disorder in that country are fraught with the serious danger of the escalation of Beijing's aggressive actions in Indochina.

Hanoi, February 27, TASS--Addressing participants in a plenary meeting of the Executive Committee of Vietnam's Federation of Trade Unions, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Le Duan exposed the counterrevolutionary essence of the policy of Beijing's ruling circles that unleashed an aggressive war against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Beijing's sinister plans, he said, are aimed at the annexation of Vietnam, at expansionism and great-power hegemonism in Indochina, in South-east Asia and in the whole world.

Le Duan spoke highly of the performance of compatriots of various nationalities in the northern border provinces, of officers and men of the armed forces, members of people's militia detachments who are heroically fighting and striking worthy reply blows at the aggressors. He said that the factors determining the victory of the Vietnamese people against the Chinese aggressors were the combined strength of the people that has achieved the independence, freedom and unity of the motherland, and the unselfish assistance of the Soviet Union and fraternal socialist countries, the sympathies and support of all revolutionary and progressive forces in the world.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam urged the working class of Vietnam to raise its role in society, in the defence of the motherland. He stressed that each enterprise, construction site, town, and provincial centre should become an unassailable fortress.

Shishkovskiy on PRC Aggression

LD280706 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Excerpts] Reports from abroad indicate that China is expanding the scale of aggression against Vietnam. Beijing is bringing in fresh infantry, artillery and tank units into the battle area. Two paratroop divisions have also been transferred there. The aggressor is clearly reinforcing its troops which have invaded the northern provinces of Vietnam. Foreign observers are drawing attention to the further concentration of Chinese Armed Forces in border areas in the south of the PRC. In particular a new army corps and hundreds of warplanes are being transferred to the southern provinces.

The buildup of Chinese troops on the border with Laos also has been noted. In this connection competent circles abroad are not ruling out the possibility of Beijing's extension of its aggression to Laotian territory. By all accounts it is no coincidence that China has stepped up the activities of its agents in Laos in attempts to provoke disorders in this Indochinese country. All this is fraught with the serious danger that Beijing intends to extend the escalation of its aggressive activities in this area of Southeast Asia.

At the same time Beijing propaganda is trying to throw up a smokescreen of lies and slander by accusing Vietnam of aggression and stating that China allegedly is ready for some kind of talks. The hypocrisy is also continued by officials in Beijing. Meeting American journalists yesterday, PRC State Council Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping tried to make out that world opinion now favors China. By clumsy flourishes of this kind this Beijing leader is trying to create the appearance that world opinion supposedly supports Chinese aggression. During his conversation with American correspondents Deng Xiaoping was asked the question: When will the Sino-Vietnamese conflict end? The Chinese vice premier, according to an AFP report, replied that this does not depend on one country. More monstrous hypocrisy is quite simply difficult to imagine--the aggressor feigns the appearance of an innocent lamb, though everyone can see that this is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

In the opinion of Western observers there are already 25 Chinese divisions engaged in the fighting on Vietnamese territory. This means that Beijing has thrown against the Vietnamese people more army troops than the United States did at the very height of their aggression in Vietnam. Making use of their numerical advantage, the intruders have on some sectors of the front managed to push forward 40 kilometers inside Vietnamese territory.

Losses of Chinese troops in the 10 days since the start of the aggression have already reached 20,000 men. Over the same period they have lost over 300 tanks and armored transport vehicles. Incidentally it should be said that Deng Xiaoping yesterday declined to give a direct answer to a question from American journalists about Chinese losses in Vietnam. He limited himself to the cynical statement that these are, in his words, losses inevitable during war.

Beijing continues to hide the truth about its aggressive adventurism from the broad masses of the Chinese people. The present Beijing rulers have considerable reason for doing this: with the boom of military drums they hope to drown the dissatisfaction of broad strata of the Chinese population with the Maoist order prevailing in the country.

For this reason too the monstrous lie of the threat allegedly created against China from the south--from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam--was dreamed up. No honest person can remain indifferent to Beijing's criminal actions on Vietnamese soil. Connivance with its policies means indulging in plunder, violence and hegemonistic diktat--in other words, assisting the attempts by the Chinese leadership to drag the whole world to the brink of global war.

Talk on Background to Aggression

ID271630 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0315 GMT 27 Feb 79 ID

[Talk by journalist Ivan Shohedrov: "Chinese Aggression Is a Threat to the Security of Peoples"]

[Excerpts] Today I will discuss Chinese aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on which the attention of all mankind is rivetted. On 17 February a 100,000-strong Chinese armed force crossed the Vietnamese border and undertook an aggression. That aggression is now continuing in its second week. On the same day, Beijing reported that this aggressive act was, it said, a "preventative measure" against Vietnam on its northern border with China. Such was the explanation, and after that practically nothing was explained to the Chinese people about that act. At the same time, Deng Xiaoping, the PRC vice premier, while he was in the United States quite recently said that China had decided to punish Vietnam for pursuing an independent policy in Southeast Asia and, in pursuing that policy, refusing to assist the Beijing expansionists. Naturally, in the Western press all this assumes a somewhat different appearance; but the phrase itself to punish Vietnam was used, and on more than one occasion by such a high official as Deng Xiaoping.

At the same time, Chinese representatives have unleashed rumors the last 5 days via unofficial sources that the operation will end at any moment now and they will withdraw their forces, but at the same time more and more fresh divisions are being brought to the Vietnamese border. If a week ago about 120,000 soldiers and officers of the Chinese Armed Forces were in action on that front now, according to figures from various sources, their number is 400,000 and they are aided by tank units and the air force. The fighting in a number of sectors is becoming more and more fierce.

I should now like to dwell on the question of how that aggression was prepared. It was not an isolated action taken at the last moment. No, the aggression was prepared long beforehand and it all started a long time ago, in 1954. It was in that year that school textbooks were published in China in which the territory of Vietnam, like many other Asian countries, was described as territory which had been temporarily lost by the PRC as the textbooks stated. The textbooks pointed out further that those territories had been lost by China as a result of imperialist annexation--China being the Chinese feudal state which itself frequently acted as an aggressor. And so the so-called cartographic aggression by China began in 1954. Chinese land borders with other countries stretch for 21,500 km and of that approximately 22,000 km is land border; the Chinese expansionists consider only about 2,000 km to be more or less the legitimate border. In all other directions the Chinese expansionists are planning aggressive acts to annex territories and to bring about the so-called "return" of territories to the bosom of China. The war in Vietnam which was unleashed by the U.S. imperialists in 1964-65 met with a resolute rebuff from progressive, democratic and peace-loving forces throughout the world.

China also said that it supported Vietnam in that war, but at the same time China rejected a proposal made by the Soviet Union in 1965 to create a united front of anti-imperialist forces to give support to Vietnam as a member of the socialist community. At that time the Chinese leaders said that the Vietnamese people were a heroic people by themselves and needed no rockets or aircraft, and that U.S. imperialism was a paper tiger and at any rate would be crushed in the sea of a people's war. This was demagogy, but hidden behind that demagogy were great expansionist plans whose essence was to bleed Vietnam--which was fighting a war against imperialist forces armed to the teeth and which at that time did not have any rockets or new jet aircraft--and afterward to come to an agreement with the imperialists to divide the country up or for it to be completely occupied by the Chinese expansionists.

In this connection I would like to quote you a statement made at a secret meeting of the Chinese Communist Party Politburo by Mao Zedong at that very time, in 1965: We must get Southeast Asia, Mao Zedong said then, including South Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, Singapore and other countries. A region such as Southeast Asia is very rich and contains a large quantity of minerals. It is completely worth the expense required to obtain it. In the future it will be very useful for the development of Chinese industry. This secret speech became known quite recently in 1975. And then already, in Ho Chi Minh City, which was then called Saigon, entire headquarters were being set up to prepare for that aggression and to prepare a fifth column in the form of the Huaqiao--the local Chinese. These organizations were recently uncovered and their plans became known. The Chinese, through their secret network of political organizations, economic and subversive organizations, were preparing for future events when Beijing was to take the decision to begin intervention against Vietnam and against other countries in Southeast Asia.

In early 1975, when the Vietnamese patriots had fought off the aggression by U.S. imperialists, a Chinese landing party landed, on the orders of Beijing, in the Paracel Islands--islands which belong to Vietnam. Aggression had begun from two sides, as it were. On one hand the imperialists were acting against Vietnam while on the other the Chinese aggressors were also trying to occupy Vietnamese territory. No sooner had the war ended with the victory by the peoples of Indochina when, urged on by Beijing, a specially trained band of Kampuchean cutthroats attacked the Vietnamese island of Phu Quoc, occupied it and simply murdered the population.

You will remember how, when in 1977 the people's power in Socialist Vietnam expropriated the bourgeoisie, including the Chinese bourgeoisie, China acted in support of the Chinese bourgeoisie living in Vietnam. Many sectors such as the retail trade, the wholesale trade and banking were in the hands of the Chinese, particularly in South Vietnam. These were events which, it turns out, were later to show what was happening. Beijing wanted to disorganize the Vietnamese economy which was weakened by the war at a time when all the towns in North Vietnam were in ruins in order to also prepare rear organizations to provide for easier annexation during the planned aggression. Last summer the PRC announced that it was ending all aid to Vietnam and withdrawing all its specialists. And finally, this January, the Chinese side carried out over 170 armed provocations along the Vietnamese-Chinese border. That is how that aggression was prepared: China with its population of almost 1 billion against 50 million Vietnamese who have been fighting with weapons in their hands for their freedom and independence.

Here I should also like to note one aspect to which the Western press tries not to pay any attention and pass over in silence: this is the collusion between the imperialist forces and the Beijing expansionists in preparing the aggression and carrying it out. As you know, Carter admitted that Chinese forces had crossed the border. At the same time U.S. business circles are continuing to hold talks with China on questions of exchange and are giving practical aid to China to strengthen its economic and military might. Often this is not done directly, but via other NATO countries. Now, for example, talks are in progress on the delivery of a large quantity of Harrier aircraft. All these talks are held to the sound accompaniment of the guns which are today bombarding Vietnamese villages and towns.

In this situation, Beijing's policy is essentially close only to reactionary circles in the West. But even they now are trying to act not in the open, as I have already said, but under the cover of demagoguery, under the cover of the smokescreen which Western propaganda is now making, while they continue their policy of complicity with the aggressor. I should like to recall in this connection another very important fact. So far the United States has not recognized the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. So far the country whose bombers bombed dozens of towns and thousands and thousands of villages, and the victims of whose crimes were millions of Vietnamese killed and mutilated, has still not allocated a single dollar for the restoration of the war-destroyed economy. Both sides, the imperialist United States and China which is the aggressor, are working together in the same harness. It must be said that now that urged on by the West, China, in carrying out its aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is in fact doing what the West itself has been doing for a long time to undermine the socialist community. But now other hands are being used--the hands of China, which has betrayed the interests of socialism and betrayed the interests of the peoples of the world, including the peoples of the Third World in which it even includes itself.

Fatherland Front Plenum Opens

LD271742 Moscow TASS in English 1732 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 27, TASS--A plenum of the Central Committee of the Fatherland Front of Vietnam, the chief mass organization, uniting all the political parties and public organizations of the republic, began its deliberations in the Vietnamese capital. The plenum is to focus its attention on tasks connected with the flagrant aggression unleashed by China's ruling circles against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Army Paper on Defeating Aggressors

LD271750 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 27, TASS--The Beijing aggressors' prattling about a supposed "limited nature" of their invasion of Vietnam is an undisguised lie, the Vietnamese army newspaper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN emphasizes.

The aggressive war of China's reactionary clique against the SRV, the newspaper says, is expanding from day to day and is becoming ever more brutal. China's great-power expansionists not only seek to annex our lands but also to implement hegemonistic plans throughout Asia. They regard Vietnam only as a priority object for expansion.

It is the historic task of our people vigorously to fight the aggressors and inflict utter defeat upon them. The Vietnamese people live on their own land, are fighting for the independence of their country. They are not occupying a single inch of alien land. The clique of the Chinese expansionists must immediately stop the aggressive actions against Vietnam, immediately and fully withdraw its troops from our country. As long as the Chinese aggressors trample underfoot Vietnamese land, our people will fight until full victory.

Soviet Admiral Supports Statement

OW280325 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 27 Feb 79 OW

[Talk by Soviet Rear Admiral (Pluchenko)]

[Excerpts] Not long ago Radio Beijing viciously attacked the Soviet Navy, especially the Soviet Pacific Fleet. It accused the fleet of having certain aggressive and expansionist intentions.

Beijing propagandists clamored that the Soviet Pacific Fleet is aggressive, threatening the people of Asia because it has improved its strength by equipping itself with modern, advanced vessels every year. Such an argument is absurd. Can the real mission and intention of a fleet be judged by the level of its technical equipment?

A law signed by Lenin 61 years ago outlined the following mission for the then Workers and Peasants Red Navy: defend from imperialist aggressors' attack by sea the achievements of the Great Socialist October Revolution. The Soviet Navy has always tried to fulfill this mission during the past 61 years. The Soviet Navy has no other function, nor can it have any other function.

As for technical equipment, it is natural that the Soviet Navy has improved or strengthened itself. The Soviet Union cannot but consider the fact that the aggressive imperialist bloc has escalated the arms race, including the naval arms race. This fact has naturally compelled the Soviet Government to maintain its defense capabilities at a considerably high level.

Beijing propagandists allege that there are seven times more vessels in the Soviet Pacific Fleet than in the U.S. 7th Fleet. To emphasize this, they even fabricated some figures: Soviet naval vessels of various types based at Vladivostok total 755. However, shortly before Radio Beijing fabricated these figures U.S. military circles stated that the U.S. 7th Fleet has more vessels than the Soviet Pacific Fleet.

In "comparing" the Soviet Pacific Fleet with the aggressive U.S. 7th Fleet, the Beijing media have no intention of mentioning to the Chinese working people and PLA commanders and fighters the many U.S. naval bases near China, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The ships, aviation and missile units of the U.S. 7th Fleet are deployed in Japan, South Korea, the Philippines and Diego Garcia as well as on China's Taiwan and Penghu islands. From those bases the United States committed much aggression and plunder against Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea and China.

Beijing's leaders are not concerned about this. On the contrary, while colluding with the U.S. imperialists they asked the imperialists to maintain or heighten their military involvement in Southeast Asia and the Far East. At the same time, following in U.S. imperialism's footsteps, the Beijing leaders have committed barbarous aggression against Socialist Vietnam. They have recklessly used armed force against the heroic Vietnamese people who are engaged in creative, peaceful labor. Thus they have once again exposed the features of their aggressive policy. This shows how they disregard the destiny of the world's people.

However, the Zhongnanhai leaders have failed to consider one point: the entire socialist community headed by the Soviet Union and all progressive people in the world are on the side of Socialist Vietnam. The Soviet people and army men unanimously support the statement issued by the Soviet Government on the Chinese invasion of Vietnam and demand that China immediately halt its aggression against Vietnam and withdraw its troops from Vietnamese territory.

By the way, it should be remembered that the Soviet Government's statement asserted: The Soviet Union will fulfill the obligations it has undertaken under the Soviet-Vietnam treaty of friendship and cooperation.

TASS REPORTS NORMALIZATION OF LIFE IN CAMBODIA

ID232146 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 23 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, February 23, TASS--The People's Republic of Kampuchea is successfully continuing its formation of the bodies of people's power and building a new life. The people's committees of self-government, true representatives of the interests of the workers, peasants, soldiers, intelligentsia and the clergy, are being set up all across the country. According to the KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY (SPK), 560 people's committees of self-government were set up in the province of Kompong Thom, Prei Veng, Siem Reap and Battambang, alone. The difficult tasks of housing hundreds of thousands of people returning from the camps set up by the reactionary Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime, of normalizing life in the country and resuming economic activities are being successfully solved, as the bodies of power are relying on the broad support of the working people. The people's committees in the above mentioned provinces during the past period received and accommodated 200 thousand people. They were given, free of charge, 180 tons of rice, 23 tons of salt and receive necessary medical aid.

A meeting of many thousands was held in the provincial center of Kampot for the support of the program of the National Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea.

Life is returning to normal in the Kampuchean capital of Phnom Penh. Water and electricity supplies were resumed in the capital and measures are being taken to start the operation of industrial enterprises.

LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT CONGRESS RENAMES ORGANIZATION

ID212154 Moscow TASS in English 2104 GMT 21 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Vientiane, February 21, TASS--The Lao Patriotic Front has been renamed into the Front of National Construction at the congress of the organization, which was held here from February 16 to 20. President of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos Souphanouvong has been elected chairman of the front CC. The congress also adopted the charter and program of the front.

MOTIVES BEHIND DIET RESOLUTION ON NORTHERN TERRITORIES HIT

LD271932 Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

["Behind the Screen of Territorial Claims"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 27, TASS--TASS commentator Vasilii Kharkov writes:

The resolution on the so-called "northern territories," adopted last week by both houses of the Japanese parliament, can play into the hands of the circles that wish to launch an anti-Soviet campaign of claims to a part of Soviet territory. The resolution demands unlawfully an "early return" to Japan of four Soviet islands from the south Kuril string. Its authors cannot be unaware that these islands belong to the Soviet Union and any claims to them, as to other Soviet territories, constitute an encroachment upon the sovereignty of the Soviet Union, contradict basically the principles of goodneighbourship between Japan and the USSR.

The Soviet side has declared more than once that there is no "territorial problem" in existence between the USSR and Japan. This is why any attempt to create this "problem" artificially, to raise an anti-Soviet fuss around it, serves only the forces that wish to darken the atmosphere of Soviet-Japanese relations and, at the same time, to create favourable conditions for the implementation of their goals, which are very far removed from the national interests of the Japanese people.

The fact could not escape the attention of foreign observers that the adoption of the parliament resolution coincided with the discussion of Japan's draft state budget for the new fiscal year. This draft is marked by a considerable growth of allocations for military purposes, particularly for the purchase of American warplanes. One gets the impression that the Japanese parliament members needed a reference to some sort of "military installations" on the closeby Soviet islands so as to use the alleged "threat from the north" as a pretext for new steps to boost the country's military potential. Japan's rearming, which is assuming ever broader scope, cannot but alert many Asian countries, which still remember well the past doings of Japanese militarism.

Certain circles in Japan are, apparently, prone to use the present hullabaloo around the "northern islands" for yet another purpose, namely, to divert Japanese public opinion from Beijing's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. It is common knowledge that Japanese public opinion condemns this criminal action of the Chinese leadership and demands resolutely an immediate withdrawal of the aggressive troops from Vietnamese territory.

It is pertinent to recall that Beijing came out more than once with instigatory statements, encouraging Japanese claims to Soviet lands. And now the forces in Japan, which are prepared to follow in Beijing's wake, have apparently decided to play this card.

LATVIAN OFFICIAL DESCRIBES SHORTAGES OF MEAT, DAIRY PRODUCTS

LD271633 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 10 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report on LATINFORM correspondent interview with R.O. Verro, first deputy chairman of the Latvian Council of Ministers: "Overcoming the Consequences of the Elements"]

[Text] The editorial offices of newspapers and LATINFORM have recently been receiving letters from working people in the republic referring to interruptions in the supply of meat and meat products, as well as individual types of dairy products.

A LATINFORM correspondent approached Comrade R.O. Verro, first deputy chairman of the Latvian Council of Ministers, and asked him to answer some questions contained in the working people's letters.

[Question] What has caused the difficulties in meeting the requirements of the republic's population for certain foodstuffs, especially meat and meat products, butter and certain types of dairy products?

[Answer] Yes, a difficult situation has indeed arisen in the republic in recent months as regards satisfying the public's requirements, particular in the cities, for meat and dairy products.

The present difficulties arose because in the second half of last year--1978--conditions were extremely unfavorable for our agriculture. We all know what severe tests rural workers faced. Throughout the summer and fall rain fell continuously over practically all the republic's territory. Then, in late September, hurricane winds and snowstorms occurred throughout the eastern part of the republic. That was a real natural disaster for agriculture. As meteorological specialists testify, there has never been such a difficult year for weather conditions in the history of Latvia.

Naturally, that could not fail to have an effect on the results of the work of our kolkhozes and sovkhoses and all rural workers. Despite the fact that party, soviet and agricultural organs in the republic adopted all possible measures to lessen the effect of the elements; despite the exceptionally selfless, heroic labor by tens of thousands of machine operators and all agricultural workers; despite the great assistance given to rural areas by the workers and employees of our cities and servicemen in the Soviet Army, the republic's agriculture sustained huge losses. Nearly one-third of the entire area of grain crops and a significant proportion of potatoes, vegetables and areas sown with fodder crops were destroyed.

The rain washed away the soil so much that no machinery was able to go out into the fields. Thus the situation became so unfavorable that in the republic as a whole even the plan for sowing winter grain crops could only be 39 percent fulfilled, and in individual regions only 8-10 percent, whereas in all previous years the republic has overfulfilled the plan for winter sowing.

Kolkhozes and sovkhoses were only able to procure 69 percent of the planned quantity of coarse fodder for livestock for the winter months, 60 percent of the silage and root crops, and only 42 percent of the fodder concentrates (grain). Even in the case of grain crop seeds kolkhozes and sovkhoses were only able to lay in 70 percent of requirements for the spring sowing, of which only 24 percent are suitable for sowing. A very complex situation arose in the republic's livestock-raising. [paragraph continues]

Livestock productivity fell--the milk yield per cow fell and the weight gains of animals being fattened were reduced. As a result of all this it was not possible to fulfill plan targets and socialist pledges for the production and sale to the state of meat, milk and certain types of crop growing products in 1978.

And this, in its turn, had a negative effect on the creation of reserves of livestock products in the republic and is being reflected today in the trade in meat, milk and dairy products. Had kolkhozes and sovkhoses fulfilled plans for the sale of livestock products to the state in the republic, capital set aside for this purpose would have been fully exploited. But as we can see, this did not happen. Hence certain difficulties and interruptions in supply now.

[Question] What measures are now being adopted in the republic to eliminate the interruptions and difficulties which have arisen and to more fully satisfy the population's demand for livestock products? What are the prospects?

[Answer] At the present time the main task is to winter livestock in an organized way and to increase the output of livestock products everywhere, on every kolkhoz and sovkhos. All party, soviet and agricultural organs are directing their efforts to this end. All who are involved in agricultural production see this as their first duty. On every kolkhoz and sovkhos concrete measures have been elaborated and are being implemented, aimed at insuring the unconditional fulfillment of 1979 targets laid down for the production and sale to the state of livestock products.

The Latvian CP Central Committee and the republican Council of Ministers have outlined concrete measures for the further, accelerated development of stockraising in the republic in 1979 and subsequent years in order to fully satisfy our people's requirements.

It must be said that the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and many of our country's fraternal republics have given tremendous assistance in working to eliminate the consequences of the natural disaster in the republic. This year a large additional amount of feed grains, agricultural machinery, spare parts and fuel and lubricating materials has been allotted to the republic from state resources for the needs of stockraising and the successful wintering of livestock.

It is well known that in normal years the republic satisfies almost 50 percent of its feed grain requirements from its own grain production. This year we can supply only 25 percent of our feed grain requirements from our own production. The state is allocating all the rest.

In order to supply livestock with coarse fodder for the winter we were forced to ask the Ukraine and Belorussia to allocate 150,000 tons of straw. This is now being delivered to the republic. Belorussia and Lithuania helped us with potatoes for food (for Riga and other cities) and for seed.

In order to carry out the spring sowing, taking into account the shortfall in the sowing of winter grain crops, the USSR Government has fully made good the shortfall in spring grain crop seeds.

Raykoms, rayispolkoms and rural soviets are now carrying out considerable work to increase the production of meat and milk on kolkhozes, sovkhoses and rural dwellers' individual farms. [paragraph continues]

The sale of piglets and chicks to the rural population for fattening is being practiced on an increasingly wide scale everywhere. The production of livestock products on the private plots of organizations and institutions is expanding.

As a result of the measures adopted the production and procurement of milk and meat in the republic began to increase recently. The task is to insure that the growth rate in the production of livestock products increases steadily everywhere.

We have the potential for this. The number of all types of livestock, particularly pigs, on kolkhozes and sovkhoses has increased. Making rational use of every kilogram of existing fodder, kolkhozes and sovkhoses are striving for an increase in livestock productivity--milk yields and weight gains in livestock being fattened. On this basis there is a real possibility of increasing meat and milk procurement and rapidly eliminating existing difficulties and interruptions in the meat and dairy product trade.

[Question] What is required of workers in state and cooperative trade in this connection?

[Answer] In the first place, they are required to make rational use of all existing resources. An enhanced feeling of responsibility, high organization, discipline and efficiency in work are required. Things must be arranged so that above all we have an uninterrupted trade everywhere in those products of which sufficient quantities exist--bread and flour products and flour, groats, potatoes and vegetables, confectionary and a wide range of fish products. We now have a quite adequate supply of whole milk and kefir in all cities and regions. That means that it is incumbent on supply and trading organizations to insure their timely transportation and sale so that whole milk and kefir are continuously on sale in the stores. If this does not happen, the blame lies entirely with suppliers and trading workers. As for meat and meat products, butter and certain types of dairy products, I repeat that the interruptions in the supply of these are the result of a natural disaster in the republic's agriculture and constitute a temporary phenomenon; with every week, with every month the situation will improve.

ESTONIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON INSUFFICIENT FODDER, MILK

LD271637 [Editorial Report ID] Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian on 17 February publishes on pages 1 and 3 a 2,000-word interview by correspondent V. Repetskiy with Estonian Agriculture Minister Kharald Aleksandrovich Myannik under the heading "Overcoming the Difficulties of Wintering." The minister says that "Despite extremely unfavorable conditions last year the republic fulfilled the plan for the sale of grain to the state," but that in spite of every effort "on most farms insufficient fodder was procured." Asked "what measures are being adopted to improve the state of affairs in meat production," he replies that "the underfulfillment of plans in January must be regarded as a temporary phenomenon." In the republic as a whole "there are reliable prospects for increasing the production and sale of meat." The minister states that milk yields have also been falling and "as of 1 February yields were lower than last year in all regions." However, it is claimed that the fall in yields has now been halted. The importance of private plots is noted. The minister states that socialist pledges for 1979 envisage a further increase in the production of livestock products, because the "test which the republic's crop growers and stockmen passed last year" demonstrated the "powerful vitality of socialist agriculture."

COSMOS-1079 EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED 27 FEB

LD280802 Moscow TASS in English 0742 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--On Tuesday the Soviet Union launched the Cosmos-1079 earth satellite to continue space studies.

The sputnik's parameters: initial period of revolution--89.6 minutes, maximum distance from the surface of the earth--359 kilometres, minimum distance--179 kilometres, inclination of orbit 67.1 degrees.

The equipment on board the sputnik is functioning normally.

INTERCOSMOS-19 LAUNCHED 27 FEB TO STUDY IONOSPHERE

LD280948 Moscow TASS in English 0938 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

["Intercosmos-19 in Flight"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--The artificial earth satellite Intercosmos-19 was launched in the Soviet Union on Tuesday in accordance with the programme of socialist countries' cooperation in exploration and use of outer space in peaceful purposes. The aim of the launching is to carry out a comprehensive exploration of the structure of the earth's ionosphere, peculiarities of wave processes and propagation of radiowaves in ionospheric plasma.

The sputnik has scientific equipment and a telemetric system to transmit back to earth scientific information, which have been created by specialists of Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

The sputnik was put into an orbit with the following parameters: the maximum distance from the surface of the earth--996 kilometres, the minimum--502 kilometres, the initial period of revolution--99.8 minutes, the inclination of the orbit--74 degrees.

On the cosmodrome, specialists of the countries-parties to the experiment carried out preparation of scientific equipment for the launching and are controlling its operation.

The systems aboard the sputnik are functioning normally. The ground stations of the command-measuring complex of the Soviet Union and reception centres of the telemetric system of the countries, parties to the experiment are regularly receiving scientific information coming from the sputnik.

SOYUZ-32 CREWMEN PREPARE SALYUT-6 FOR MANNED FLIGHT

LD271345 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 27, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin began this day on board the Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 research complex at ten hours, Moscow time. It will last till 23 hours, Moscow time. The crew performed final operations to mothball the onboard systems of the Soyuz-32 spaceship and began work to switch the station into a manned flight mode.

The cosmonauts are re-activating the systems of life-support, power supply and thermal regulation, and are working with technical documentation.

A medical check-up is planned for the second half of the day for the purpose of studying a re-distribution of liquid in the organism in the conditions of weightlessness. The cosmonauts will also install a mass meter by means of which cosmonauts measure mass of body.

According to medical control results, the process of Vladimir Lyakhov's and Valeriy Rymin's adaptation to weightlessness conditions is occurring normally. The onboard systems of the Salyut-6--Soyuz-32 orbital complex are functioning normally. The micro-climate parameters in the station's rooms are as follows: temperature--20 degrees above zero, centigrade, pressure--770 millimetres of the mercury column.

COSMONAUTS TO APPRAISE STATE OF SALYUT-6 UNITS

LD271548 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

["Cosmonauts in the Role of Experts"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 27, TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov reports from the Flight Control Centre:

The crew of the Soviet spaceship Soyuz-32, Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Rymin, have a very important assignment for their first week in outer space: to examine [examine] once more the onboard systems, instruments and scientific apparatus of the Salyut-6 orbital station with which their ship linked up on Monday.

Soviet Cosmonaut Dr Konstantin Feoktistov, commenting on this assignment, said that with the completion of their 140-day space flight Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov practically accomplished the program of manned expeditions planned for the Salyut-6. During the three and a half months of the station's unmanned flight, guided with the help of telemetric communications channels, the conditions of its main systems was carefully studied and it was established that most of them, specifically the life-sustaining flight directing and power-supply systems, had far from exhausted their service life. The Soyuz-32 crew willingly supported the proposal of the flight directors for acting as experts and appraising the condition of all systems of the complex.

Already today, after a successful and rather economical docking operation, Feoktistov said, we saw that one of the station's vital systems responsible for the approach and link-up of spacecraft, is functioning normally. Within the next few days, we shall be waiting for appraisals of other major units of this station. The crew are planning to make a prophylactic examination of scientific instruments and to check on the performance of the oxygen and water supply "factories". To judge by the air test samples brought back to earth by members of the second expedition, the atmosphere aboard the station is quite satisfactory but it is Lyakhov and Ryumin who will have the last say in the matter.

They are also to check very carefully, together with the earth, other systems on which depends the station's activity in carrying out the scientific program.

Apart from this main task of the first week, the flight directors said, the cosmonauts are to conduct medical experiments and investigations and have several sessions of visual observations of the earth.

EKTRAN TELEVISION SATELLITE'S COURSE CORRECTED

ID271750 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1704 GMT 27 Feb 79 ID

[Text] Moscow, 27 February TASS--An Ekran television broadcasting satellite was launched in the Soviet Union on 21 February in accordance with the program of further development of television broadcasting systems involving the use of artificial earth satellites. It is fitted with an onboard relay apparatus insuring the transmission in the decimeter wavelength range of central television programs for the network of collectively used reception installations.

After corrections carried out from 21-27 February, the Ekran satellite was placed on a circular orbit approaching a stationary position, with the following parameters:

--Distance from the earth's surface: 35,780 km;

--Earth orbiting period: 23 hours 56 minutes;

--Orbit inclination: 0.35 degrees.

The apparatus installed on the Ekran satellite is working normally. The satellite is being controlled by a command and measurement complex. The Ekran satellite has the Statsionar-T international registration index.

BRIEFS

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES EXPANDS--Moscow, February 23, TASS--The Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences has taken a decision to set up two scientific centers in the east of the country: in Krasnoyarsk and Tomsk. The Krasnoyarsk branch will embrace the existing institutes of physics, forests and timber and the computer center. The coming years will see in Krasnoyarsk territory new research institutions to accommodate the needs of the economy of this Siberian region. The old university city of Tomsk is well-known for skilled specialists. Research is being conducted there at the institutes of petrochemistry, big current electronics, atmospheric optics. This considerable scientific potential allows to create there a base for research into many natural sciences. The two scientific centers will be included into the Siberian section of the USSR Academy of Sciences, which already incorporates Buryatian, East-Siberian and Yakutian branches. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1926 GMT 23 Feb 79 ID]

SOVIET POLAR EXPEDITION--Leningrad, February 27, TASS--The high latitude air expedition on Sever-31 (North-31) today started here for the Arctic. Its purpose is to make hydrological surveys and observe nature throughout the polar basin between the shores of Siberia, Alaska, Canada and Greenland. Mikhail Krasnoperov, who is in charge of the expedition, said that landing teams of scientists in small powered biplanes would touch down at 200 points of the ocean and northern seas, including the geographical North Pole. This exploration will be conducted within the frameworks of the national Polex (polar experiment) program for the seventh consecutive spring. Regular observations will make it possible to trace the dynamics of water, ice and atmospheric conditions in the Arctic and on this basis, to make mathematical models of the weather and climate in that region. The expedition will spend over 2,000 hours in the air during two months, covering a distance of 330,000 kilometres. Besides scientific research, its tasks also include the delivery of stores to drifting research stations. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 27 Feb 79 ID]

USTINOV ORDER: USSR WILL HONOR OBLIGATIONS TO VIETNAM

LD281107 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of "USSR Ministry of Defense Order No 39"]

[Text] Moscow, 23 February 1979--Comrade soldiers and sailors, sergeants and chief petty officers!

Comrade ensigns and warrant officers!

Comrade officers, generals and admirals!

Comrade veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces!

Today our motherland celebrates the Soviet Army and Navy's 61st anniversary.

This holiday is being celebrated amid a new upsurge of political and labor activity among the Soviet people, prompted by the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum decisions and the preparations for the USSR Supreme Soviet elections. Socialist competition to fulfill and overfulfill the 10th 5-Year Plan targets is widespread. The working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia are implementing the historic 25th CPSU Congress decisions in an inspired manner.

Together with the fraternal socialist countries, the Soviet Union is consistently and persistently pursuing a Leninist peace policy. In the context of the NATO military bloc's stepping up the arms race and the present Chinese leadership's direct complicity with the forces of reaction, the Communist Party and the Soviet state are showing tireless concern for strengthening the country's defense and further improving our armed forces in order to defend peace and check aggressive forces.

The Soviet people and all progressive mankind received the news of the aggression unleashed against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam by the Chinese Maoists with a sense of anger and indignation. These criminal acts are a direct result of the policy of blackmail and pressure which the Chinese authorities have pursued for years toward Southeast Asia in general and toward Vietnam in particular. In its statement on Beijing's aggression the Soviet Government confirmed that our country will honor its obligations under the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. "Hands off Socialist Vietnam!," all our people are today resolutely and strictly demanding.

The men of the army and navy, like all the Soviet people, warmly approve and unanimously support the Leninist domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Rallied closely around the Communist Party and the Soviet Government and infinitely devoted to their people, in united combat formation with the Warsaw Pact member states' soldiers they are reliably guarding the sacred borders of our motherland and the socialist community countries, vigilantly guarding peace and the peoples' security and selflessly serving the great cause of communism.

III. 28 Feb 79

V 2

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Comrade servicemen!

Comrade veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces!

My congratulations on this nationwide holiday--the Soviet Army and Navy's 61st anniversary. I wish personnel further successes in combat and political training, in improving military skill and strengthening discipline and organization.

To mark the Soviet Army and Navy's 61st anniversary I order that on 23 February 1979 at 2100 hours local time firework displays be held in our motherland's capital--the Hero-City of Moscow--and in the union republic capitals, the Hero-Cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Sevastopol, Odessa, Novorossiysk, Kerch and Tula, and in the Hero-Fortress of Brest.

Long live the Soviet Army and Navy's 61st anniversary!

Long live the heroic Soviet people and their Armed Forces!

Glory to the CPSU--the inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense

BRIEFS

MILITARY ACADEMY CHIEF--A meeting of Amurskaya Oblast party organization's aktiv was held today in Blagoveshchensk to discuss Comrade Brezhnev's book "The Virgin Lands" and the organization's tasks in intensifying ideological and political training work among the working people. A report was made by Avramenko, obkom first secretary. Among those who participated in the discussion on the report was Leonov, commander of the Far Eastern combined arms command school named after Marshal of the Soviet Union Rokossovskiy. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 6 Feb 79 OW]